

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor January 7, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Mike Kay and Chris Shearer

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
+Processional Hymn No. 7 "Great God, We Sing Your
Mighty Hand"
+Ascription
+Exhortation
+Confession (In Unison) O Thou Who art from everlasting to
everlasting, without beginning or end of days;
replenish us with heavenly grace, at the beginning of
this year, that we may be able to accept all its duties,
to perform all its labors, to welcome all its mercies,
to meet all its trials, and to advance through all it
holds in store for us with cheerful courage and a
constant mind. O Lord, let us not be separated from
Thee, either by joy or sorrow, or by any sin or weak-
ness of our own. Forgive us, and keep us in Thine
eternal love, through Christ our Lord. Amen.
+Kyrie
+Assurance of Pardon
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.
Requiem Observance and Prayer
Mrs. Rosco Gould, Merle S. Harmon, Joseph Hampton,
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Hoffman, William Winters and William
Hockenberry
Friends: Mary DeBroad, Vera Hockenberry, Samuel P.
Christy and Carrie Sanderson *WALTER H. TROHLER*
Hymn No. 614 "For All the Saints"
Children's Moment
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings
Offertory
+Doxology page 382

Piano Anthem: "No Other Name/All Hail the Power of Jesus
Name"

Scripture: James 1: 21-25

Sermon: "Does It Work?"

+Invitational Hymn No. 370 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

+Choral Benediction "Shalom to You"

+Benediction

+Postlude

***** +Congregation Standing *****

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by Mr.
and Mrs. Leroy Andrew Jr. and Family in memory of

Leroy Andrews Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Tait will greet our members and guests
at the door this morning.

Ushers for today are Marty Henry, Walter Hollefreund,
John Snow and Jeff Snyder.

Attendance last Sunday was 85 with 6 visitors.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Linda Patsy.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Dick Mangel.

The Hospital Visitation Team for this week will be Bill
Snyder and Dick Mangel.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: -Tuesday Jan. 9th - Sunday School
teachers meeting at 7 P.M. Please come!

-Monday Jan. 8th - Property Committee
meeting at 7 P.M.

-Audit begins at 2 P.M. See office for
your scheduled time. January 17th!!!

-Jan. 18th Music Committee will meet
following choir practice at 8:30 P.M.

> YEARBOOK INFORMATION is due in now. All committee chair-
men must report who the new chairman is for 1990.

> NOMINATIONS for Elders and Deacons will be made this month.
Please put down your nomination on a slip of paper and
drop in the offering plate. Paper is found in back of
the pews.

At the Choral Benediction we would like the congregation to
join us. The words are: Shalom to you now, Shalom my
friends, May God's full mercies bless you, my friends,
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be
your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone, The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - JANUARY 5, 1997

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

BOWLING TODAY MORAWK LANES INDIANA
5:00 - NEED RIDE? ASK BRIAN
ALL WELCOME

SIGN UP SHEET REFR. DOWNTOWN
NEXT WK OK - FOLLOWING WK:

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

DISMISSAL OF JUNIOR CHURCH - K TO 11yrs

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: JAMES 1:21-25

SERMON: "DOES IT WORK?"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 1/7.90

HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

UNIFORM - PEG

SCRIP: JAMES 1:21-25; SERM: "DOES IT WORK?"

(ILUS MAN MAKE A "THIG-A-MA-JIG")

SUMONE SED CH IS LIK THIS - DORS OPN, WINDOWS OPN, ETC

BUT WAT IS IT? DUZ IT WORK? ANSR LYS IN WAT CH IS????

CH IS LIV ORGNISM MADE OF OTHR LIV ORGANISMS WH/KEEP IT GO

/OUT LIV ORGNISMS-PEOPL, TH/CH IS JUS BLDG,EDIFACE

PEOPL IS WAT MAKES CH & CH IS DEPN ON PEO WORK/B ACTIV

THIS WAT JAMES SPK IN THIS SCRIP

HE TALK 2EA INDIVID XPAN & HIS CAL 2LIF HOLINES & SERVIC

VS 21=FILTHNES=FILTH/DIRT,THAT WH/SOIL CLOTHES/BODY

PUT ASID=STRIP OFF LIK DIRTY CLOTHES

FILTHNES/WICKENES=ROOT MEANING - WAX IN TH/EAR

"STRIP OFF THAT WH/WUD MAK US DEAF TO HEAR

WHT? =VS 21B

ENGRAFT WORD=BIBL-MANNR OF LIV LIF,PLANT W/IN AS SEED

G IMPLANT W/H. SP., HUNGR/THIRST FOR G'S WORD

HUMNNE DENY/DELAY THIS & PUT OFF WKS,DAYS, MNTHS, EVN YRS

JAMES SAYS=STRIP OFFFILTH OF WORL,& RECEIV ENGRAFTD WORD

DUZ IT WORK??? HOW WUD U ANSER???

IT DEPENDS ON U & UR CHURCH & WAT CH IS TO U

(ILUS PASTOR, CHURCH SIGN & REVERS POINT TO CEMTARY)

MANY CH'S R DED? R U DED TO UR CH? OR IS TH/CH DED TO U???

IT IS ONLY AS ALIV AS U R WIL TO MAK IT

VSS 22-24=WHY JAMES SAY MAN??

SUMONE SED IF UBD WOMAN SAM SNALOGY WUDNT HOLD TRU

MAN LKS & C'S SELF,AS IS:MITE NOTIC ONE EAR BIGGR,NOSE TOO BIG,

MOLE ON CHIN,WART ON NOSE,ETC

NO USE WOMAN BCUZ WUD COVR W/MAKUP DO SUMTH BOUT IT,

BUT MAN ACPT AS IS,GOES AWAY & 4GETS WAT LKS LIK,(AVG MAN)

CONTRAST THIS TO - VS 25=READ

SONTRAST=LOOKETH-PEER INTENTLY AT - STOOP OVR & EXAMIN

MAN WHO SEEK WORK AT FAITH ISNT CONTENT JUS LK & C LIK MIRROR,

& 4GET,MUS LK CLOSLY

WAT HE LK AT??? -- PERF LAW OF LIBRTY & WAT IS THIS????

ROMANS 8:2=

ROMANS 8:2

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

THIS IS PAUL'S ANSR TO "WAT IS TH/PERF LAW," OR, "TH/LAW OF LIB"
TH/PERF LAW IS CHRIST

"I WAS TH/PERF HUMN BEING G WANTD HIS CREATIN OF MAN 2B
S WAS ABL 2LIV UP TO & FULFIL EVRY REQUIR G HAD 4MAN
AND IT IS ONLY THRU TH/SHED BLUD OF JS XP MAN CANB SET FREE FROM
TH/BONDAG OF SIN & TH/SPIRITUL DETH OR SEPRATIN FR/GOD THAT SIN
BRINGS WITH IT

SO THRU JS XP THER IS TH/NEW LAW, TH/LAW OF LIBRTY, FREEDOM
FR/SIN & ITS CONSEQUENCES

IS THAT A PART OF OUR LIVS AS WE LIV EA DAY??? IT SHUDB
R WE AWAR THAT THRU JS XP WE R NU CREATINS & WE HAV BIN SET
FREE??? WE SHUDB

(ILUS 5YR OLD BOY PROCLAIMING PEOPLE WER FORGIVN)

EVN THO HIS MOTH R WAS EMBARASD HE HAD IT RITE

HE WAS STAING A TRUTH

IT IS IN XP'S NAM ALL MANK IS FORGIVN

BUT NOT EVRONE AWAR OF THAT OR EVN CARES TO KNO IT
BUT LIK THAT CHILD - THERE - OUT THERIS WHER TH/MESAG NEEDS 2B
GIVN

DUZ TH/CHURCH WORK??? ONLY IF ITS INDIVIDUL MEMBRS WORK AT
SHARING THER FAITH

(ILUS OF YNG MAN & ALL AUDIENC CLAPPD EXCEP ONE MAN)

IS G ABL 2APLAUD WAT WE R DO IN TH/CHURCH?

WHOM R WE SEEKING TO PLEAS?

TH/DORS & WINDOWS OPN & CLOS:

YES GO OFF & ON, BELLS RING & THIS CONG IS IN MOTIN

BUT DUZ IT WORK???

WAT IS IT??? HOW DO WE ANSR???

R WE WILLING TO CHANG OUR INACTIVTY IF WE R GILTY OF THAT???

GOD INVITES US NOT JUS 2B HEARERS OF TH/WORD, BUT DOERS ALSO

(Ilus THINGAMAJIG)
exempl of Ch

vs 21=

filthines=~~stripx~~offSOIL CLOTHES/BODIES

put off=STRIP OFF LIK CLOTHES

THINES?WICKDNES+MEDSENSE+WAX IN TH/EAR

IMPLANT=PLACE IN LIK SEED

(Ilus Ch/sign & pt othr way 2 cemtary)- Wher is Ur Ch?

vss 22-24

Contrast vs 25

Rom 8:2-Perf Law

(Ilus 5yr old boy suprmarkt-In Xp's Nam U R 4Givn)

(Ilus yng man violin,evrone aplaud cept one old man)

"Does It Work?"

Scripture: James 1:21-25
 (Ilus man mak "Thingamajig")
 Suml has sed th/Ch is lik this:dors/windows opn/shut/bels R rung,
 lites go on/off=but wat is it? Duz it work?
 ansr lvs in wt th/Ch is=2defin simply is 2say it liv orgnism
 madup othr liv orgnisms 2keep it go
 ut othr liv orgnisms=peo,Ch is jus word,bldg,edific
 peo is wat maks th/Ch & th/Ch is depend on thoz peo work & B
 activ
 this precisly wat James talk bout this Scrip
 he talk 2ea individ Xpian & his cal is 2lif hilines & servic
 vs 2l=intrast 2note word 4-Filthines/wickdnes means filth/dirt
 wh/soils clothes/bodys
 word usd 4=put asid=strip off lik clothing
 so he say=STRIP OFF THAT WH/SOLIS CLOTHS OR BODYS
 But word 4=Filthines/wickdnes has root mean wh/usd medicl sènsè
 & that medicl sènsè means wax in the ear
 So seem James say=BLIEVRS SHUD STRIP OFF,OR AWAY FR/SELVS ANYTH
 WH/WIL STOP OR MAK DEF THER HEARING
 & wat is reasn 4this? So=IN HUMILITY RECEIV WORD IMPEANTD=2lb
 Word Implantd=G's Word,Th/Bible,wh/has w/in mesag salv & mannr of
 liv Xpian lif
 Implant=means 2plac w/in,plant lik seed
 G's Word implant us by H Sp
 we no born w/naturl desir read/diges G's Word
 that hungr/thirst afr things of G implan w/in by H Sp spk 2
 our harts & livs
 it wen cum 2knowledg salv thru Js Xp,receiv Him as L & Sav that
 Bgin hav hungr/thirst 4 G's Word
 our human nes mav mak us deny this & may delay & put off serch
 of G's Word 4days/wks/perhaps yrs
 t' why James say we 2strip off filth this worl & receiv impl
 W...
 2 th/quest=Duz It Work?, how sud U ansr?
 it very much depen wher Ur ch is
 (Ilus pastr,ch/sign,& sign point othr directin)
 Wher is Ur ch? Is it ded? Or is it aliv? It is only as aliv as U
 R wil 2mak it
 Vss 22-24-notic-James say-MAN,do U kno why man not woman?
 sumone sed if wrto woman analgy wudnt hol tru
 (Exampl-man lk,C warts;moles;unevnr ears,lrg nose,etc)
 he 4get & walk way-if womn,wud seek 2corec,covrup,but avg man
 lk & quikly 4get
 Contrast this=vs 25
 th/contras this=in ordr 4man 2B wat shudB,peers intently
 intently=actuly stoop ovr 2C very closly wat lk at

2/

man who seek work at faith no conten jus 2C mere imag in mirror
 quikly 4gottn
 NO,mus lk closly at it
 Th/Perf Law;Th/Law of Librty =wat is perf law,law of librty?
 Rom 8:2=Th/perf Law is Js Xp
 He perf humn B G wantd 4His creatin of man 2B
 was sbl 2liv up2 fulfilling evry requir G had 4man
 & it only thru shed blud Js Xp man canB set free fr/bondag sin &
 sp/deth,sepratin fr/G that sin brings w/it
 so thru Js Xp ther is Nu law=th/Law of librty,fredum fr/sin &
 its consequences
 is that a part our livs as liv them ea day?
 R we awar thru Js Xp we R nu creatins,that we bin set free?
 (Ilus 5yr old boy & suprmart=In Xp's Name U R 4givn)
 evn tho mothr embars,boy had it rite
 he was stat truth
 it is in Xp's Name all mank is 4givn,but not evrone is awar of
 that or evn cares 2kno it
 but lik that child,ther,out ther is wher th/mesag needs 2B giv
 & it only thru membs Ch Js Xp mesag wil B givn
 Duz The Church Work?
 only if its individ membs work 2shar ther faith
 (Ilus yng man play violin & evrone clap cept one old man)
 Is G abl 2aplaud wat we R do in th/Ch?
 Whom R we seek 2pleas?
 th/dors opn/clos;windows opn/clos;lites go on/off;bells ring &
 th/cong is in motion
 But Duz It Work?
 Wat is it?
 How do we ansr?
 R we wil 2chnge our inactivty if we gilty of that?
 Invits us not 2B jus hearers of th/Word,but doers also

"Does It Work?"

Scripture: James 1:21-25

(Illustration of man makin a "thingamajig")

There is a story told of a man who worked in a plant in machine repair. His job was to fix the wheels and gears and wiring to keep the machines running. He thus had a vast knowledge of this type of thing and he liked to do that. So he was always bringing home scrapped wheels and gears and things. His next door neighbor noticed him bringing these things home and asked about it. The man replied, "I'm going to make something special with them. Time went on and the neighbor noticed the man working in his basement. After some time the man met his neighbor in the yard and asked him to come into the basement because he wanted to show him what he had made. He explained that he had taken a spare room of the basement and he had ~~xxxx~~ finished this project. He ushered the neighbor in the door and asked, "Well, what do you think of it?" The man looked at all of the gears, and wheels, and cogs, and lights and asked, "Does It Work?" "Does It Work," shouted the man, of course it works. Watch!" And with that he threw a few switches and the whole room came to life. Wheels were turning, and gears were shifting, bells were ringing, lights were going off and on, little windows and doors he had made were opening and closing. The neighbor looked at it for a time and then asked, "What is it?"

Someone has said that the church is much like this. Doors and windows are opened and closed, bells are rung, lights go off and on, "But what is it?" "Does IT Work?" The answer lies in what the church is. To define it simply is to say that it is living organism made up of many other living organisms which keep it going. With out the other living organisms, people, church is just a word, or a building, an edifice. People, is what makes the church. And the church is dependent upon those people working and being active. That is precisely what James is talking about in this Scripture for this morning.

He is talking to ~~xxx~~ each individual Christian and his call is to a life of holiness and service. In the 21st verse he says, "Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls."

It is interesting to note that the word James uses for "Filthiness" means "filth, or dirt, which soils clothes or soils the body." And the word he uses for "putting aside," means to strip off like clothing. So he is saying, "Strip off that which soils your clothes or bodies. But the word which is used for "filthiness and wickedness" has a root meaning which is used in a medical sense. That sense means wax in the ear. So it seems that James is saying that believers should strip off, or away from themselves anything which will stop us, or make deaf their hearing. And what is the reason for this? So that, "In humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls."

The Word implanted is God's Word, the Bible, which has within it the message of salvation and the manner of living the Christian life. The word used for "implanted" is a word that means to plant within such as a seed. God's Word is implanted within us by His Holy Spirit. We are not born with a natural desire to read and digest God's Word. That hunger and thirsting after the things of God is planted within by the Holy Spirit speaking to our hearts and lives. It is when we come to the knowledge of salvation through Christ, receive Him as Lord and Savior that we begin to have a hunger and thirst for God's Word. But our humanness may make us deny this and we may delay and put off the searching of God's Word for days, weeks, and perhaps years. That is why James says that we are to strip off the filth of this world and "Receive" the implanted Word." To the question, "Does It Work?" how would you answer? It very much

depends on where your church is.

(Illustration of pastor, church sign, and sign pointing in another direction)

A minister tells of when he was young in the ministry and after getting a small congregation started, he put a nice sign on the main road ~~leading~~ one block from the church. It had an arrow pointing toward the church with the name and the invitation to attend. After a few weeks went by he decided to check on the sign and said that he was humiliated to discover that someone had pulled the sign up, turned it around and the arrow pointed to a cemetery across the road.

Where is your church? Is it dead? Or is it alive? It is only as alive as you are willing to make it.

the
James tells us the solution for making a church work is simply, "But prove yourselves doers of the Word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the Word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was," verses 22-24.

Notice James says "A man." Do you know why he uses a man as the example? Someone has said that if he wrote "A woman," the analogy wouldn't hold true. James is using the illustration of a man looking in a mirror. He sees himself as he is. He notices that maybe one ear is bigger than the other, or it is not the same ~~place~~ place on the side of his head; or, his nose may be rather large; or, he may have a wart on his chin; or one eyebrow is different than the other and so on. James uses "a man" because that someone who said if he used a woman the woman would seek to correct or cover up the mole, or wart, or whatever. But the average man will accept his face for what it is and walk away from the mirror and quickly forget that he has warts, or moles, or freckles, or whatever.

Contrast this to, "The one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer, but an effectual doer, this man shall be pleased in what he does," verse 25.

The contrast is this: in order for that same man to be what he should be, he has to peer intently at what he is looking at. The word "intently" means to actually stoop over to see very closely what you are looking at. The man who is seeking to work at his faith, isn't content to just see it as a mere image in a mirror quickly forgotten. No, he must look closely at it. And what is he looking closely at? "The perfect law," ~~is what James calls it.~~ "The law of liberty," is what James calls it. What is the perfect law? Or, the law of liberty? Paul answers that by saying in his letter to the Romans, chapter 8, verse 2: "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death."

The Perfect law is Jesus Christ. He was the perfect human being that God wanted His creation of man to be. Jesus was able to live up to fulfill every requirement that God had for man. And it is only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ that man can be set free from the bondage of sin, and the spiritual death, separation from God that sins brings with it. So through Jesus Christ there is the new law, the law of liberty, freedom from sin and its consequences. Is that a part of our lives as we live them each day? Are we aware that through Jesus Christ we are new creations, that we have been set free?

(Illustration of 5 year-old-boy proclaiming that people were forgiven)

A member of a church which uses a prayer of confession and an assurance of pardon tells that after the confession the minister announces, "In Christ's name, you are forgiven," and the congregation repeats, "In Christ's name, you are forgiven." This member tells of going

shopping in a super market with her 5 year-old-son. She was embarrassed because he was going from shopper to shopper proclaiming, "In Christ's name, you are forgiven."

Even though his mother was embarrassed, the little boy had it right. He was stating a truth. It is in Christ's name that all mankind is forgiven. But not everyone is aware of that or even cares to know it. But like that child, there, out there is where the message needs to be given. "Does the church work?" Only if its individual members work sharing their faith.

*** (Illustration of young man playing violin and everyone clapped, but one old man)

Many years ago a young couple had their first child, a boy. As the boy began to grow they noticed he had musical talent. He could play the violin. They wanted the best teacher they could get and were told there was an old Swiss maestro who used to teach but was now retired. When the maestro heard the boy play he recognized he had ability and decided to teach him. The boy was just eight-years-old at that time. For ten years his teacher worked with him almost every day. Then came the time for his debut. His parents booked Carnegie Hall. The press and all the important people came. The lights dimmed and the young man stepped on that stage and from the first note to the last he held the crowd mesmerized. When he finished the crowd rose to their feet and filled the hall with their cheers and applause. Yet the boy ran offstage crying. The stage manager yelled, "Get back out there. They love you. They are all cheering and applauding." The boy answered, "There is one who is not." The stage manager rushed out to look and then came back. He said, "OK, so one old man is not applauding. You can't worry about what one old man thinks when the rest of the world loves you." The boy replied, "But you don't understand. That old man is my teacher, my leader."

Is God able to applaud what we are doing within the church? Whom are we seeking to please? The doors and windows open and close; lights go off and on; bells ring, and this congregation is in motion. But "Does it Work?" "What is it?" How do we answer? Are we willing to change our inactivity if we are guilty of that? God invites us not just to be hearers of the Word, but doers also.

*** (ALTERNATIVE ENDING WITH ILLUSTRATION OF MISSIONARY WHO HAD SERVED FOR OVER 40 YEARS IN AFRICA AND HIS RETURN HOME)

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor January 14, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Chris Shearer and Mike Kay
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 385 "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) Eternal Father, teach us in the days of this year to discover the preciousness of time. Keep us from squandering our hours in senseless thought and useless activities. Help us through good books, clean conversation, and creative action to so number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom, and a life devoted to thy reconciling ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
*Kyrle
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 35 "Near to the Heart of God"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "Glory to God Almighty"
Scripture: Exodus 24: 9-18
Sermon: "For Him: R & R"
*Invitational Hymn No. 2 "How Great Thou Art"
*Choral Benediction "Shalom to You"
*Benediction
*Postlude

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by Mrs. Alma Killean and family in memory of Ralph Killean. Mr. & Mrs. Mike McDonald will greet our members and guests at the door this morning.
Ushering today will be Alta Kradel, Lois Stokes, Donna Stewart and Alma Dally.
Nursery will be provided today by Kelly Mangel and Anna Gonzalez.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Jim Gannon.
Attendance last Sunday was 95 with 8 visitors.
Sandy Sheppeck and Kathy Goda will be visiting the hospital this week.
Hospitalized: *HAROLD KENNEDY*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: IMPORTANT MEETINGS!!!

Monday - Property Committee will meet at 7 P.M. along with the women who are interested in changes that may take place in the kitchen.
Tuesday - Activities Committee will meet at 7 P.M. We need all of you there to plan for our activities for this time of the year.
Wednesday - Auditing of the books will begin at 2:00 P.M. Please check the schedule in the office for your appointed time.
Thursday - Chancel Choir at 7:00 P.M. We need more voices. Music Committee meeting following choir at 8:30 P.M.

> YEARBOOK INFORMATION is due in. If you have not met with your committees and selected a chairman please do so as soon as possible.
> NOMINATIONS for Elders and Deacons will be made this month. Mark your nomination and drop it in the offering plate. Paper is provided in the back of the pews. *2 MORE SUNS*
> YOUTH SOUP & SANDWICH will be held on January 28th following the church service.
Please join in the singing of the Choral Benediction at the end of the service. The words are: Shalom to you now, Shalom my friends, May God's full mercies bless you my friends, In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your Shalom, Christ be your Shalom.
At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you desire.

Community Bible Church - Sagamore, Pa. - January 21, 1996

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 24:9-18

SERMON: "FOR HIM: R & R"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER, 1/14/90

*HYMN

* EDITION

POSTLUDE

SCRIP: EX 24:9-18; SERM: "FOR HIM: R & R"
 (ILUS MAID, DILIGENC OF CLEAN & =HER GLORY)
 WEST CAT ASK QUES: WAT IS TH/CHIEF END OF MAN?
 ANSR: TH/CHIEF END OF MAN IS 2GLORIFY G & 2ENJOY HIM 4EVER
 HOW HAPN? ANSR SIMPL, ONLY G CAN MAK POSIBL
 "MUS SEEK HOW G DUZ THIS 2UNDRSTAN
 SCRIP GUD EXAMPL 2ANSR QUES REGARD CHIEF END OF MAN
 VSS 9-11=G REVEAL SELF SO THEY C HIM, BUT NO DY
 TRANSPARENT PLATFORM=VS 10=NO UNDRST COMPLET, BUT G REVEAL SELF
 THIS REVELATIN OF HIS GLORY
 VSS 15-17=HERE AGIN "GLORY OF GOD", BUT WAT IS HIS GLORY???
 "HIS ESSENC, TH/PERSON OF G IN WH/CAN FIND HIM, DISCOVR HIM
 & IT IS HIS ESSENC IN WH/HE CAN TAK PRID, LIK MAID HER CLEANING
 WHY G CHOOZ SHW/GIV HIS GLORY? ANSR=HE IS GOD
 BGIN OF LAW HE SED=I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD
 TELS WHO HE IS, WE LERN HE DESIR 2B WORSH/SERVD ABUV ALL ELSE
 GOD GIVS GLORY 2HIMSELF & IT IS 4HIM G DUZ EVERTH, & WHY SHUDNT HE
 WE R HERE ON EARTH ONLY THRU HIS PERMISSIV WIL
 SO 1ST THING KNO BOUT G IS IT 1ST OF ALL 4HIM HE GIVS HIS GLORY
 FIRST OF ALL G DUZ THIS FOR=REVELATION
 G WANTS EA, EVR PERSN WALK THIS EARTH 2TRULY KNO HIM
 ISA 42:8=I AM TH/L, THAT IS MY NAM: I WIL NOT GIV MY GL 2ANOTHER
 HE SHOWS HIS GLORY 2GIV REV OF SELF
 PS 46:10=B STIL & KNO THAT I AM G
 PS 100:5=KNO YE THAT TH/HE IS G: IT IS HE THAT HATH MADE US, & NOT
 WE OURSELVS: WE R HIS PEO & TH/SHEEP OF HIS PASTUR
 EA THEZ VSS & MANY OTHERS GIV US TH/REV OF GOD
 TH/ULT REV WAS JS XP & ALTHO JS FINAL REV OF G, THAT REV CANB
 A PERSNL ONE IN LIF OF EVRONE & ONLY POSIBL IF WIL 2SEEK G THRU
 (ILUS R.G. LE TOURNEAU & DIRECTIN OF H SP) HIM
 COINCIDENC? QUIRK OF FATE? NO, G'S REV 2HIM & HE ABL GLORIFY G
 (I LE TOURNEAU GIV 90% INCOME AT HIS DETH)
 G WANT REVEAL SELF ON PERSNL BASIS 2EA US, SO MAY GLORIFY HIM WHIL
 LIV HERE ON EARTH - & IT 4HIMSELF HE GIVS US THIS REV
 BUT, W/REV WAT DUZ G EXPEC FR/US?
 VS 18=WAT C HERE IS MOSES RESPON - HE DID WAT G ASKD OF HIM
 VSS 3 & 7=RESPONS IS WAT G WANTS FR/THOZ RECEIV HIS REV
 REV IS WAT G GIVS 4HIMSELF 2SHO HIS GLORY & RESPON WAT G WANTS
 FR/BLIEVRS
 WAT KIND RESPON DUZ G WANT=THAT WHICH WIL GLORIFY HIM
 WAT IS TH/CHIEF END OF MAN - 2GLORIFY GOD-ONLY DUN BY LIV XPIAN
 (ILUS PREACHR PR ON WAT IS A XPIAN & BOY'S RESPON) LIFE
 RESPON G WANTS FR/US IS 2TEL HIM W/OUR LIVS WE R HIS
 LATTR PART OF CAT QUESTIN ANSR IS AND TO ENJOY HIM FOREVER
 HOW CAN ENJOY G FOREVER?
 ONLY THRU PERSNL RELATSHIP W/JS XP
 G ASKS US 2RESPOND 2HIS REV BY TAK JS XP AS SAV & LORD.
 WAT IS A XPIAN? CAN WE ANSR=IT IS SUMONE LIK ME ???
 WAT IS A XPIAN? TELL HIM W/YOUR LIFE

(Ilus maid & =HER GLORY)
 Westminster Catechism asks=WAT IS TH/CHIEF END OF MAN?
 Ansr=TH/CHIEF END OF MAN IS 2GLORIFY G & 2ENJOY HIM 4EVER
 VSS 9-11
 Sapphire - Translucent Blue platform
 15-17
 WAT IS GLORY OF G?? - His essenc, persn of G in wh/can find Him
 1st Comm=I AM TH/LORD UR GOD
 Glory for Revelation
 Isa 42:8=I AM TH/L, THAT IS MY NAM: I WIL NOT GIV MY GLORY 2NOTHER
 Ps 46:10=B STIL & KNO THAT I AM GOD
 Ps 100:5=KNO YE THAT TH/HE IS G: IT IS HE THAT HATH MADE US, &
 NOT WE OURSELVS: WE R HIS PEO & TH/SHEEP OF HIS PASTUR
 (Ilus R.G. LeTorneau & H Sp direc whil asleep)
 It is FOR HIM - HIMSELF - G givs Revelatin
 Vs 18 RESPONSE
 vss 3, 7
 Cat Quest=WAT CHIEF END MAN? 1st part - 2GLORIFY GOD
 (Ilus WAT is a Xpian & boy's respons)
 TEL HIM MAMA, TEL HIM

"For Him: R & R"
 Scripture: Exodus 24:9-18
 (Ilus of maid and 'her glory")
 Th/astminstr Cat asks quest=WAT IS TH/CHIEF END OF MAN?
 & Ansr=MAN'S CHIEF END IS 2GLORFY G & 2LUV HIM 4EVR
 To glorfy G & to luv Him 4evr - How can that hpn??
 th/simpl ansr is that G Himself can only mak that posibl
 but we mus seek 2C how G duz this in odr 2undrstan
 Our Scrip this morn is gud exampl 4ansr th/ques regar chief end
 of man
 it one of many exampls how G shows self 2man & th/purpos of it
 Mos,Aarn,sons-Abihu,Nadab,& 70eldrs wer cal by G 2th/Mt 2
 receiv th/Law
 Vss 9-11=READ - G reveal Self 2them in such way,wer abl 2C Him
 & yet didnt dy
 We canot undrstan how this hpn & wat form this tuk,
 ther thoz who hav describ as G stan on platform transparent
 Sapphire,or blue
 Blue was color used by roylty of that day
 All this was Revelation of His Glory
 vss 15-17=READ - here agin is th/Glory of G
 But wat is=Th/Glory of G??
 As simply as can put it,it is that essenc of G,that Persn of
 G in wh/we can find Him,or discovr Him,& it is that esenc in
 wh/He can tak prid
 jus as maid tuk prid in her work & cal it her Glory,so G takes
 prid in His Glory - it is G's esenc,strictly His
 But why duz G chooz 2giv or sho His Glory??
 Ansr=He is GOD
 But ther mor 2it than jus that stamen-in th/very begin of th/Law
 th 1st Comandmen Bgin=I AM TH/LORD UR GOD
 at tells who He is & we lern He desirs 2B worshipd & servd
 & uv evrthin in els in this worl
 G givs His Glory 4 Himself-it is For Him that G duz evrth &
 why shudnt He??
 We R on this erth only thru His permisiv wil & so 1st thing
 we kno bout G is that it is 1st of all For Him He giv His Glo
 & th/purpos of do that is 2fold
 it is FIRST of all 4revelatin
 G wants Reveal Self 2mank so evry persn who walks this erth
 may truly kno Him
 Dea proph inspir writ=I AM TH/L,THAT IS MY NAM:I WIL NOT GIV
 MY GLORY TO ANOTHR - Isa 42:8
 all that G duz is 2sho 4th His Glory;2giv Rev of Himself
 He inspir Ps writ=B STIL & KNO THAT I AM G - 46:10
 KNO YETTHAT TH/L HE IS G:IT IS HE THAT HATH MADE US,& NOT WE
 OURSELVS:WE R HIS PEO & TH/SHEEP OF HIS PASTUR - 100:3
 ea thez vss & many othrs cud quot fnd throu His Word givs us
 th/Rev of G & then of cors,th/ult rev is givn thru Js Xp

altho Js was final rev of G,that revelatin is & canB a persnl 2/
 one in th/lif of evrone
 that only posibl wen persn wil 2seek G thru Him
 (Ilus " 3.LeTourneau & directin of H Sp whil asleep)
 Ther 2 wud say it quirk of fate or coincidenc - But was it???
 NO, was G's rev 2 Mr. LeTourneau & he abl glorfy G thru it
 at tim his deth,Mr. LeTourneau was giv 90% incom 2work of th/L
 G wants reveal self 2ea us on persnl basis so we may gloffy Him
 whil liv here on erth
 It is FOR HIM,4Himself that He givs His revelatin
 but w/this revelatin wat duz G expec of us???
 vs 18=Wat C here is Moses response - he did wat G ask of him
 in vs 3- & in vs 7=RESPONS is wat G desirs fr/thoz who hav receiv
 His revelatin
 REVELATIN is wat G givs - FOR HIM, 4 Himself,2sho His Glory,& it
 is RESPONSE wh/He desirs fr/Blievrs
 but wat kind of Respons duz G want??
 altho peo along w/Moses declar they wud obey & do wat G wantd,
 w/in short periud tim they wer mak goldn imag 2worship
 th/Respons wh/G wants is that wh/wil glorfy Him
 th/Cat quest=Wat is th/chief end of man? - & 1st part is=TO GLO-
 RIFY GOD
 we can only dothis by striv 2liv th/Xpian lif
 (Ilus preachr ask quest=WAT IS A XPIAN & littl boys respons)
 Th/Respons G wants fr/us is 2 TELL HIM w/our livs that we R His
 th/lattr part of Cat quest is=TO ENJOY HIM FOREVER
 How can we enjoy G 4evr?
 Only thru a persnl relatsip w/Js Xp
 G asks us 2respond 2 His Revelatin by tak Js Xp as our Sav & Lord
 Wat is a Xpian?
 Car ansr - IT IS SUMONE LIK ME????
 Wat is a Xpian?
 Tell Him w/Ur lif

"For Him: R & R"

Scripture: Exodus 24:9-18

(Illustration of maid and diligence in her cleaning)

A man tells of a friend who employed a maid to ~~be~~ do the cleaning of their house. This maid was so diligent in her work that this family's house became known for being immaculately clean. The maid did this without any prompting on the part of the man and woman of that house. They never had to worry about the rooms being cleaned, furniture dusted and polished and floors swept, silver polished, and so on. Someone asked the maid why she did such a good job. She replied, "because I've got a glory." Her work was something that she took pride in. ~~She said that~~ What she did and how she did it gave her a sense of satisfaction and to her, that was what she called "her glory."

The Westminster Catechism asks the question, "What is the chief end of man." And the answer is: "Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." "To glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever." How can that happen? The simple answer is, that God Himself can only make that possible. But we must seek to see how God does this in order to understand.

Our Scripture this morning is a good example ~~for answering the question~~ regarding the chief end of man. It is one of many examples how God shows Himself to man and the purpose of it.

Moses, Aaron, his sons Abihu and Nadab, along with seventy elders were called by God to the Mount to receive the Law. We read of this in the 9th through the 11th verses, (Read this portion). God revealed Himself to them in such a way that they were able to see Him and yet not die. We cannot understand what form this took. There are those who have described it as God standing on some sort of platform of transparent sapphire, or blue. All of this was a revelation of His glory.

Then in this Scripture there is a second revelation of God as we learn from verses 15 through 17, (read these verses). Here again we read of "The Glory" of God. But what is "The Glory of God?" As simply as we can put it, it is that essence of God, that Person of God in which we can find Him, or discover Him, and it is that essence in which He can take pride. Just as the maid took pride in her cleaning and called it "her glory," so God takes pride in His Glory. But why does God choose to show or give His Glory? The answer is that He is God. But there is more to it than just that statement. In the very beginning of the Law, the first commandment is the statement, "I am the Lord your God." That tells who He is and we learn that He desires to be worshiped and served above everything else in this world. God gives His Glory for Himself. It is "For Him" that God does everything, and why shouldn't He? We are on this earth only through His permissive will. And so the first thing we know about God is that it is first of all "For Him," that He gives His Glory. And the purpose of doing that is twofold. It is first of all for "Revelation," God wants to always reveal Himself to mankind so that each and every person who walks this earth may truly know Him. Isaiah, the prophet was inspired to write, "I am the Lord, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another," Isaiah 42:8.

All that God does is to show forth His Glory; to give Revelation of Himself. He inspired the Psalmist to write of Himself: "Be still, and know that I am God," 46:10; "Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture," 100:3.

Each of these verses along with many other we could quote found throughout His Word gives us

the Revelation of God. And then of course, the ultimate Revelation is given through Jesus Christ. Although Jesus was the final Revelation of God, that Revelation is and can be a personal one in the life of everyone. That is only possible when a person is willing to seek God through Him.

(Illustration of R. G. LeTourneau and direction of Holy Spirit)

R. G. LeTourneau was a great Christian, but he wasn't always that way. He had the sub-contracting job for building the Hoover Dam, but he had underestimated the cost because he ran into solid rock and to fulfill his commitment cost him all he had and he was bankrupted. He turned to God and this turned his life around. The more he made, the more he gave to the Lord. Napoleon Hill tells of traveling with Mr. LeTourneau for 1½ years. One night, after LeTourneau had finished his lecture, they went to the airport and got into his private plane and took off. Mr. LeTourneau closed his eyes and began to pray silently, and in his prayers he fell asleep. In his sleep, LeTourneau reached into his pocket, took out a notebook and a pencil and wrote something in the book, and then put it back without opening his eyes. When they landed, Mr. Hill said to Mr. LeTourneau, "Do you remember writing in your notebook?" He said, "No," and then quickly reached into his pocket, pulled out the notebook and was shocked to see what he had written. He said, "That's the answer I've been searching for! That's the solution to the problem! The invention is now complete!" And he was able to build his huge earth-moving machines. This is how the breakthrough came to him.

There are those who would say it was a quirk of fate, or a coincidence. But was it? No, it was God's revelation to Mr. LeTourneau and he was able to glorify God through that. At the time of his death, Mr. LeTourneau was giving 90 percent of his income to the work of the Lord. God wants to reveal Himself to each of us on a personal basis so that we may glorify Him while we live here on earth. It is "For Him," for Himself that He gives His Revelation.

But with this Revelation what does God expect of us? The 18th verse of our Scripture tells us (Read this verse). What we see here is Moses' Response. He did what God asked of him. But we can also see this if we look back to the beginning of this Scripture. In the 3rd verse we read, "And all the people answered with one voice, and said, 'All the words which the Lord has spoken we will do.'"

And in the 7th verse we read, "Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, 'All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.'"

Response is what God desires from those who have received His Revelation. "Revelation" ~~and~~ ~~xxxxxxResponsexxx~~ is what God gives "For Him," for Himself, to show His glory, and it is "Response" which He desires from believers. But what kind of Response ~~ix~~ does God want? Although the people along with Moses declared they would obey and do what God wanted, within a short period of time they were making a golden image to worship. The Response which God wants is that which will glorify Him. The catechetical question is, "What is the chief end of man?" And the first part is "To glorify God." We can only do this by striving to live the Christian life.

(Illustration of preacher preaching on "What is a Christian" and little boy's response)

A little boy sat in church with his mother and listened to a sermon entitled, "What is a Christian?" Every time the minister asked the question, he banged his fist on the pulpit for emphasis. Each time this happened it built up tension within the boy and he finally whispered to his mother, "Mama, do you know? Do you know what a Christian is?"

"Yes, dear," she replied. "Now sit still and be quiet."

Finally, as the minister was winding up the sermon, he again thundered, "What is a Christian?" and banged especially hard on the pulpit. This time it was too much for the little boy, so he jumped up and cried out, "Tell him, Mama, tell him."

The Response God wants from us is to "Tell Him" with our lives that we are His. The latter part of the ~~question~~ answer to the catechetical question is, "To enjoy Him forever?" How can we enjoy God forever? Only through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. God asks us to ~~Respond~~ Respond to His Revelation by taking Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. What is a Christian? ~~Can we answer~~ Can we answer, "It is someone like me!" What is a Christian? Tell Him with your life!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	NAME	AGE	SEX	RELIGION	EDUCATION
SPECIAL ACTIVITY UNIT							
MAGNETIC FLUX							

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor January 21, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Wesley Miller and Ray Gamble
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 9 "Teach Us What We Yet May Be"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) O thou who didst cause thy star
to shine on kings in realms afar, we pray that all the
kingdoms of the world become the kingdom of thy Son.
Teach us to speak the Word of the Gospel in the
strange lands of business and science, of school and
shop, that we may be the instruments through which
thy will may be done. Forgive our abuse of the
name Christian by hoarding it for ourselves and not
sharing it in all areas of our lives. These things
we ask in His name. Amen.

*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 328 "Begin, My Tongue, Some Heavenly Theme"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"
Scripture: Genesis 1
Sermon: "For Him: Form"
*Invitational Hymn No. 404 "O Love That Will No Let Me
Go"

*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The flowers on the altar have been placed by Vicki
Winrader in honor of her mother and father, Mr. & Mrs.
Robert Winrader.
Mr. & Mrs. Rob Vinroe will greet our members and guests
at the door this morning.
Serving as Ushers today will be members of the Youth Group.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Margaret Emery.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Joe Youngblood.
Attendance last Sunday was 106 with 12 visitors.
Paul Riemer and Donley Martin will be visiting the
hospital this week.
Hospitalized: Harold Kennedy in BMH.

Dates to Mark Down:
Monday, Jan. 22nd - Property Committee and Women who
are interested in fixing up the kitchen, please come
at 7:00 P.M.
Thursday at 6:15 P.M. the children and youth will
meet for choir rehearsal.
YEARBOOK INFORMATION is needed this week. Plans are to
begin its publication.
NOMINATIONS for Elders and Deacons may be made this month.
Use the paper provided in the back of the pews and
nominate someone you think would serve. Drop it in the
offering plate.

January 27th - Youth Bowl-a-thon. Sign up with one of the
youth as their sponsor.
28th - Youth will sponsor a Soup & Sandwich lunch-
eon in the hall following the church service.

February 4 - Congregational Dinner/Meeting will be held
immediately following church in the hall.
14 - Valentine Dinner will be held in the church
hall at 6:30 P.M. You have a choice of
Roast Beef or Stuffed Chicken Breast. Price
is \$9.00 per person. See Cheryl Martin to
make your reservations.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - JULY 13, 1997

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

NEXT SUNDAY - BAPTISM YMCA POOL - 4 P.M.

HEIKA/KEITH = BACK JULIE
290 FUNERAL CARRI
GENA/SU - TAPE DECK

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: ROMANS 1:15-23

SERMON: "FOR HIM: FORM"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 1/21/90

THE LORD'S SUPPER - (INVITE ALL TO TABLE)

IN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

MARTHA'S FAMILY

BRAO/WIFE FAMILY

ROMANS 1:18-20

P IS SAY G REVEAL SELF 2ALL MANK & THER NO EXCUS 4ANYONE 2SAY-
2XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX "I DONT KNO ANYTH BOUT GOD"
G'S REV OF SELF CANB SEEN-SUN,MOON,STARS,TREES,SEA,FLOWERS,
ANYWHERE ONE LKS
THER NO EXCUS

WEN PERSN LKS ANY PART OF NATUR & QUESTIN "HOW DID THIS HAPPN?"
HE OPENS SELF 2GOD'S REV & GOD CAN REVEAL HIMSELF FUPTHR
BUT IF A PERSN ATRIBUTS ALL OF CREATIN TO SOME WILD THEORY OF
A BIG BANG OR EXPLOSIN THEN GOD IS OUT OF PICTUR & PAUL ADDS
VSS 21-23=GOD WANTS MAN TO KNO HIM, TO COME TO HIM
THAT WHY HE PROVD REV AFTR REV & RECORD THEM ALL
WEN P WROTE-THEY GLORIFIED HIM NOT HE IS SAYING THEY DIDNT HONOR
HIM -- THEY DIDNT RECOGNIZ HIM AS GOD, AS CREATOR
WE MUST ONCE AGAIN CONCUR WITH TH/THEOLOGIAN AND STATE, "THE
CHIEF END OF MAN IS TO LOVE GOD & TO GLORIFY HIM FOREVER"
HE CREATED FOR & OF HIMSELF TO GIVE US FORM & ORDER INSTEAD OF
CONFUSION & CHAOS
GOD WANTS US TO SEE & KNO HIM IN EVRTHING OF LIFE
(ILUS TEACHER TEL STUDENTS 2OBSERV UNNOTICED FLOWER)

WHO SEES TH/UNNOTICED FLOWR IN WOODS IN SPRING??
PERHAPS NO HUMAN BEING,BUT GOD SEES IT & IT EVIDENCES HIS LUV
HE REVEALS HIMSELF AROUND US EVRDAY - DO U SEE HIM??
DO WE KNO HIM THRU TH/GRTST REVELATIN OF ALL? JS YET??
ALL HE WANTS IS OUR LUV IN RETURN & HE WIL GIV US MORE OF HIS
LUV
CUM TO HIM 2DAY & REST IN THAT CREATIV LUV

GEN 1:1

BGINING NO SIGNFY CERTIN DEFINIT TIME
WORD IS USED 4TIME WEN GOD BGAN 2CREAT
MILLIONS/HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS YRS MAY HAV ELASP B4 G CREATE
IMPORTANT THING IS ---- GOD WAS THER FR/VERY FIPST

1) I CAM FROM,HOW HE CAM INTO BEING??? -- NO ONE CAN SAY
THAT IS IMMATERIAL & UNIMPORTANT
WAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT GOD DID TH/CREATING
WORD FOR CREATE IS B-A-R-A
IT USED FYCLESIVLY FOR GOD & NEVR APLYD TO MAN
IT MEANS=A FULL MIRACLE
IN SIMPLEST FORM MEANS=TO CUTDOWN, OR MAKE FULL
GOD TUK WAT THER WAS OF ATOMS/MATTR & "CUT THEM DOWN" OR,
"MADE THEM FULL"
HOW HE DID THIS, NO ONE KNOWS - EXAMPNARS/JIPITER SERCH 4HOW
LIF BGAN,ETS.

WE DO KNOW THAT GOD DID IT, OR ALL MANK SHUD KNO THIS
VS 2A=FORMLES=HER - T-O-W - H-O-O & MEANS CONFUSIN,NOTHING,
WILDNESS,WASTE,AN INDISTINGUISHABL RUIN
VOID=HEB IS W*A - BCO - HOO & IT MEANS 2B EMPTY

TH/ERTH WAS NUTH,A WILDNESS,A WASTLAND,AN INDISTINGUISHABL RUIN
AND FROM IT GOD CREATED
VS 2=NOTICE WORD "SPIRIT" IS CAPITALIZED & MEANS DEITY - GOD
ALSO NOTIC IT SAYS "SPRIT" & WHER THIS USED IN SCRIP IT MEANS
HIS BREATH

HEB WORD IS =RUACH - BRETH HERE & ALSO AT PENTECOST
GOD LITRALLY BREATHD EVRTH IN2EXISTENC
TH/WORLD,UNIVERS,EVRTH CONTAINS TH/BRETH OR SPIRIT OF GOD
VS 3=LIGHT
VSS 4-5=ONE DAY

IN READ EACH PIECE BY GLORIOUS PIECE G PUTS INTO PLACE
DO U KNO HOW VAST TH/SOLAR SYSTEM IS??
(ILUS SIZE OF SOLAR SYSTEM FR/VCLIFFE BIBL COMMENTARY)
THIS ONLY PART OF CREATIN WH/GOD DID
CREATIN ACCT GOES ON IN GEN & TEL OF MAKING OF ERTH, HVNS,
SEAS,PLANTS,ANIMALS,FISH & ULTIMAT CREATIN --- MAN
AFTR EACH PART GOD DECLARED IT GUD
VS 31=AT END CHAPTER WE R TOLD - BHOOLD IT WAS VERY GOOD
IT GOT BETTR & BETTR,BUT WHY WUD GOD GO 2EFORT 2HAV RECORDED??
2REVEAL SELF 2ONLY PART OF CREATINCUD RESPOND 2HIS LUV - MAN
GOD CREATED EVRTH FOR "HIM" - "HIMSELF" BUT NOT SELFISH MOTIV
HE WANT SHAR SELF W/HIS SPECIL CREATIN - MANKIND
IN ORDR 4MAN 2ENJOY HIS CREATOR EVRTH HAD 2HAV PROPR FORM &
SHAPE - SO GOD CREAT EVRTH PERFECT 4MAN 2USE & ENJOY
W/INTELEGENC G GIVN MAN,MAN USE CONTINULY 2QUESTIN CREATIN
FR/THIS HAV UNGODLY THEORYS EVOL,ATHEISM,AGNOSTICISM,ETC.
BUT GOD HAS SECKN AGIN THIS & WE RVAD FORTIN AS SCRIP 2DAY
TURN TO RR ROMANS 1:15-23

SCRIP: ROM. 1:15-23; SERM: "FOR HIM: FORM"

BCUZ CURENT EVENTS, SEVRL CTHR FACTRS WILB LK AT GOD NEX FEM WKS
MARS PROB/LANDR - 121 MILLION MILES FR/ERTH - 2HRS RELAY PICTS
GOD'S ORDERLINES & HOW EVRTH CREAT BY HIM
BUT THER IS CONFUSIN AS WE FIND OUT FR/TIME 2 TIME
(ILUS CHILDREN'S CONFUSION IN ENGLAND & USA)

CC SIN CAUS BY LIV SCIENTIF AGE - SCIENC PRID SELF BY GET TO
BARE FACTS & INDISPUTABL EVIDENC
MUCH OF SCIENTIF WORL NO ACCTP BIBL & PARTIC BIR CREATIN
HENC=MUCH CONFUSION
(ILUS ROBT JASTROW WRITING OF CREATIN)
DUZNT IT SND LK AN EVOLUNTINIST IS WIL 2ADMIT RELUCTANTLY THAT
EVOLUTIN IS WRONG?
THEORY OF EVOL HAS/IS CAUS PROBS SOCIETY
IF BLIEV EVOL HAV NO NEED FOR GOD & IF NO NEED GOD - ANYTHING
GOES BCUZ THER NO RITE/WRONG & HENCE=NO NEED 4PUNISHMENT
BUT IF VIEW EVRTH CREAT ~~XXX~~ BY GOD THEN LIF TAK CN NOTHR DIMENSI
& SERCH 4MEANING/TRUTH BHIND THIS THEORY BCUMS IMPERATIV
LETS LK AT BEGIN OF BIBL - GENESIS 1:1

Teachr Newton Hi Skul, Mass 4clas on Bibl as literatur
SODOM & GOMORAH WER LUVRS
JEZEBEL WAS AHAB'S DONKY
4 HORSMEN ~~WE~~ APEAR ON TH/ACROPOLIS
NT GOSPLS WER WRIT BY MT, MARK, LUTHR & JN
EVE WAS CREATD FR/AN APPL
JS WAS BAPTIZD BY MOSES

an)tuk priz of misinformatin fr/yng man top 5% grad clas
Questin=WAT WAS GOLGOTHA?

GOLGOTHA WAS TH/NAM OF TH/GIANT WHO SLEW TH/APOSTL DAVID
Robt Jastrow-agnostic scientist fr/buk=G & TH/ATRONOMERS
A SOUND EXPL MAY EXIS 4 TH?EXPLOSIV BIRTH OF OUR UNIVRS, BUT
IF IT DUZ, SCIENC CANOT FIND OUT WAT TH/EXPLANATIN IS. THE
SCIENTISTS PURSUIT OF TH/PAST ENDS IN TH/MOMEN OF CREATIN.
THIS IS AN EXCEEDINGLY STRNG DEVELOP, UNEXPECTD BY ALL BUT THE
THEOLOGINS. THEY HAV ALWAYS ACPTD TH/WORD OF TH/BIBL=IN TH/BGIN
G CREATD TH/HVN & TH/ERTH. 2WHICH ST? AUGUSTIN ADED WHO CAN
UNDRST THIS MYSTRY OR EXPL IT 20THRS? TH/DEVELOP IS UNEXPECTD
BCUZ SCIENC HAS HAD SUCH EXTRAORD SUCE IN TRACING TH/CHAIN OF
CAUS & EFEC BAKWARD IN TIM....NOW WE WUD LIKE 2PURSU THAT IN-
QUIRY FARTHR BAK IN TIM, BUT TH/BARRIER 2FARTHR PROGRES SEEMS
INSURMOUNTBL. IT IS NOT A MATTR OF NOTHR YR, NOTHR DECAD OF
WORK, NOTHR MEASURMEN, NOTHR THEORY: AT THIS TIM IT SEEMS AS THO
SCIENC WIL NEVR B ABL 2RAIS TH/CURTAIN ON TH/MYSTRY OF CREATIN.
4TH/SCIENTIS WHO HAS LIVD BY HIS FAITH IN TH/POWR OF REASN, THE
STORY ENDS LK A BAD DREAM. HE HAS SCALD TH/MNNS OF IGNORNC,
HE IS ABOUT 2CONQUR TH/HIGHS PEAK: AS HE PULS HIMSELF OVR THE
FINAL ROK HE IS GREETD BY A BAND OF THEOLOGINS WHO HAV BIN
SITTING THER 4CENTURIES

vs 1 - Bgin of Creatin, not Bgin of time

Creat is=BABA - a ful miscl
simple form=2CUT DWN, 2MAK FUL

vs 2A=FORMLES =HEB=TOW HOO - CONFUSIN, NUTH, WILDNES, WAST
VOID =HEB=WO BOO HOO - 2B EMPTY, AN UNDISTING RUIN, WILDNRNS,
WASTLAND

vs 2B=SP cap - DEITY

vs 3-5

WYCLIFFE BIBL COMMENTARY

MEN OF SCIENC REVEAL OUR ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ GALAXY CONTAIN MOR THAN 100
MILLION STARS, & THAT OUR SUN IS 150TRIL MILES FR/TH/CENTR OF OUR
GALAXY. OUR GALAXY IS ONE OF SMAL CLUSTR OF 19GALS, TH/NEAREST OF
WHICH IS 30MIL LITE YRS FR/US, 150TRIL MILES. OUR RESEARCH SCI-
ENTISTS BW USE POWRFUL TELSCOPS HAV MADE REANNBL SUR THAT THER
R MOR THAN A BIL GALS. THEY ESTIMAT TH/NUMBER OF STARS IN THEZ
GALS AS CLOS 2-100QUINTIL. TH/CANDL POWR OF ONE OF THEZ GALS IS
EQUAL 2THAT OF 400MIL SUNS. AS A MAN LKS ON THIS VAST CREATIN
& CPS WAT HE C'S W/INSPIRD WRITRS ACT ITS ORIGN, HIS HART MUSB
FILLED WITH AWE

"For Him: Form"

Scripture: Genesis 1
(Plus of Bible knowledg & confusin)
this jus smal sampl of confusin wh/surrounds anyth Bib 2day
A lrg part that confusin has 2do w/fac we liv very scinetif age
& scienc prids self of get at truth of mattr & lay evrth bare
w/ndisputtl facts
/enc has not & cannot acpt Bib acnt of creatin & this has caus
lrgst area of confusin
(Exmpl of Robt Jastrw - agnostic - & quot on creatin)
Duznt that snd lik at leas one of th/evolutinists is wil 2admit
reluctntly theory of evolutin is wrong?
& it is jus that theory wh/has & is caus th/probs in socity 2day
if we Bliev theory of evolutin we hav no need 4 God,& if hav no
need 4 God,then anyth goes & ther is no rt or wrong,& ther is
no need 4 fear of punishment
But on th/otr hand if we vu evrth as B creatd by G,then lif taks
on nothr dimensin & th/serch 4mean & truth Bhin that theory Bcums
imperativ
1st vs of Bibl reads=READ
th/word=Bgrin duznt signify cert def time
It is Bliev'd word is usd 4 th/tim wen G Bgan 2creat
millins,or hundrds of millins of yrs may hav elapsd B4 G actuly
startd 2creat
But import thing is G was ther fr/th/very 1st
How He cam in2 B no one can say,& actuly that is immaterial
Wat is mor import is that G did th/creating
Word 4 Create is=BARA
this word is usd exclusivly 4 God & nevr aplyd 2man
it means=A Ful Miracl,& in its simples form=2cut dwn,2mak ful
G tuw wat ther was of mattr & atoms & cut them dwn,or mad them
ful
He creatd no one knows,but we do kno it was G who did it
& so shud all mankind kno it was G
vs 2A=FORMLES in Heb=TOW HOO - & it means confusin,nuth,wildnes,
wast
VOID in Heb=WO BOO HOO - & it means 2B empty,an undisting
ruin,a wildrnes,wastlan,empy
From wat was FORMLES & VOID G creatd & He did it in His own in-
imitabl way
vs 2B=If U hav newr versin of Bib U wil note Sp cap & this dun 2
indiat DEITY
Here it indicats th/very Being of G
we talk of G B Sp;at Pent wen Ch was born th/Sp of G manifes 2
discips in Jeru
In ea instanc that Sp of G was His Breath
G litrly Breathd Creatin in2 existenc,so all th/inivers has
a portin of G w/in it

U cannot lk any of naturl ordr of things & not C th/handwork 2/
of th?Creatr
th/worl & all that in it litrly contain th/Breath,or Sp of G
vs 3=5=Then read piec by glorius piec evrth put in2 plac
& ea tim was acptbl 2 God
th/creatin on 4th day had 2do w/creatin vast solar systm
do U kno wat that systm is????
(I) siz solar systm fr/Wycliffe Bibl Commentary)
This is only one smal part of vast creatin G did
th/Creatin story goes on & tels of th/mak of hvns,seas,plants,
animls,fish,& ult creatin of man
aftr ea part we read G declar it as gud
end of chap tel us=Vs 31-READ
th/mean here is simlar 2us say=Gud,Betr,Best
As creatin movs on undr G's directin it gets bettr & bettr
But why wud G go 2bothr of hav recorded?
anar is 1st of all He want 2reveal self 2 th/only part of crea-
tim that cud respond 2that luv & it was man
onc agin mus say G creatd FOR HIM - For Himself
this not selfish motiv but want 2shar Self w/specil creatin
wh/was man
in ordr 4man 2enjoy His creatr evrth had 2B & hav propr shape
or FORM
so G creatd evrth perf in FORM 4man 2use & enjoy
But w/intel G givn man,man continuly usd intel wrongly 2quest how
creatin actuly cum in2 existenc
it fr/this we hav th/ungodly theovs of evolutin,atheism,agnos-
ticism,etc
but G has also spok agin this & we find record in Rom 1
vss 18-20=READ
P say G bin reveal 2mank & ther no excus anyone say=I dont kno
anyth bout G
rev of self canB seen in sun,moon,stars,trees,flowrs,sea
& anywhr anyone lks
So ther no excus
Wen anyone lks any part natur & asks,=How did this hapn? he is
opn 2 G's rev & G can then reveal slf 4thr
but if he atributs creatin 2 th/Big bang theory,or Explosin,
then G is out of pictur & P adds=READ vss 21-23
G wants man 2kno Him,2cum 2 Him
that why provid rev aftr revl & record them all
& we mus say agin chief end man is 2luv G & enjoy Him 4evr
He creatd 4 & fr/Himself 2giv us FORM & ORDR insted of conf &
chaos
G wants us 2C Him & 2kno Him in evrth of lif
(Ilus of teachr tel students observ unnoticed flowr)
Who C's th/unnoitcd littl flowr bloom in woods in ~~wild~~ Spring?
perhaps no humn B,but G C's it & givs it as evidenc His luv
He reveals self arnd us evrday=Do we C Him? Do we kno Him thru
grtes rev of all? All He wants is out luv in return & He wil
then giv us mor of His luv Cum 2Him 2day & res creativ
luv

"For Him: Form"

Scripture: Genesis 1

(Illustration of Bible Knowledge and Confusion)

A teacher in Newton High School in Massachusetts was going to teach a class on the Bible as literature and he conducted a quiz of high school ~~xx~~ juniors and seniors who were going to attend college on their Biblical knowledge. These were the answers he received:

Sodom and Gomorrah were lovers

Jezebel was Ahab's donkey

The Four Horsemen appeared on the Acropolis

The New Testament Gospels were written by Matthew, Mark, Luther and John

Eve was created from an apple

Jesus was baptized by Moses

but the answer which took the prize of misinformation was given by a young man who was academically in the top 5% of the graduating class. The question; "What was Golgotha?" The answer: "Golgotha was the name of the giant who slew the apostle David."

This is just a small sample of the confusion which surrounds anything Biblical today. A large part of that confusion has to do with the fact that we live in a very scientific age and science prides itself on getting at the truth of the matter and laying everything bare with indisputable facts. Science has not and cannot ~~xxxxx~~ accept the Biblical account of creation. This has caused the largest area of confusion. Here is what a scientist who calls himself an "agnostic" in religious matters has to say about creation as he wrote in his book "God and the Astronomers." His name is Robert Jastrow:

"A sound explanation may exist for the explosive birth of our universe, but if it does, science cannot find out what the explanation is. The scientist's pursuit of the past ends in the moment of creation. This is an exceedingly strange development, unexpected by all but the theologians. They have always accepted the word of the Bible, "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." To which St. Augustine added, "Who can understand this mystery or explain it to others?" The development is unexpected because science has had such extraordinary success in tracing the chain of cause and effect backward in time Now we would like to pursue that inquiry further back in time, but the barrier to further progress seems insurmountable. It is not a matter of another year, another decade of work, another measurement, or another theory; at this moment it seems as though science will never be able to raise the curtain on the mystery of creation. For the scientist who ~~ixxxx~~ has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance, he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries."

Doesn't that sound like at least one of the evolutionists ~~ix~~ is willing to admit reluctantly that the theory of evolution is wrong? And it is just that theory which has and is causing the problems in our society today. If we believe the theory of evolution we have no need for God; and if we have no need for God then anything goes because there is no right or wrong, and there is no need for fear of punishment. But on the other hand, if we view everything as being created by God, then life takes on another dimension and the search for meaning and truth behind that theory becomes imperative.

The very first verse of the Bible reads, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth," Genesis 1:1.

The word "beginning" does not signify a certain definite time. It is believed that the word is used for the time when God began to create. Millions, or hundreds of millions of years may have elapsed before God actually started to create. But the important thing is that God was there from the very first. How He came into being no one can say, and actually that is

immaterial. What is more important is that God did the creating. The word for "created" is the Hebrew word "BARA". This word is used exclusively of God and can never be applied to man. It means "A full miracle," and in its simplest form, "to cut down," or, "make full." God took what there was of matter and atoms and "cut them down," or, "made them full." How He created no one knows. But we do know that it was God who did it, or we should know that God did it.

We next read, "And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep," verse 2A.

Formless in Hebrew is, "TOW HOO - (To Hou)" and it means confusion, nothing, wildness, waste." Void in Hebrew is, "WO BOO HOO - (Wa Bo Hou)" and it means to be empty, ^{an undistinguishable ruin}. The earth was nothing, a wilderness, a wasteland, empty, and from it God created. But He did it in His own inimitable way. The end of verse 2 tells us, "And the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters," verse 2B.

If you have a newer version of the Bible, you will note that the word Spirit is capitalized. This is done to indicate Deity. Here, it indicates the very being of God. We talk of God being a Spirit. At Pentecost when the church was born, the Spirit of God was manifested to the disciples in Jerusalem. In each instance, that Spirit of God was His breath. God literally Breathed creation into existence. So all of the universe has a part or portion of God within it. You cannot look at any of the natural orders of things and not see the handiwork of the Creator. The world, and all that is in it, literally contains the Breath, or Spirit of God.

Verse 3, points out, "Then God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light," and further, "And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. And God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day," verses 4-5.

Then we read piece by glorious piece everything is put into place. And each time it was acceptable to God. The creation on the fourth day had to do with the creation of the vast solar system. Do you know how vast that system is?

(Illustration of the size of solar system)

From the Wycliffe Bible Commentary we read:

Men of science reveal that our galaxy contains more than 100 billion stars, and that our sun is 150 trillion miles from the center of our galaxy. Our galaxy is one of a small cluster of 19 galaxies, the nearest of which is 30 million light years from us (150 trillion miles). Our research scientists, by using powerful telescopes, have made reasonably sure that there are more than a billion galaxies. They estimate the number of stars in these galaxies as close to 100 quintillion. The candle power of one of the galaxies is equal to that of 400 million suns. As a man looks on this vast creation and compares what he sees with the inspired writer's account of its origin, his heart must be filled with awe"

This is only one small part of this vast creation which God did. The creation account goes on and tells of the making of the earth, the heavens, the seas, plants, animals, fish, and the ultimate of creation, man. After each part we read that God declared it good. The end of the chapter tells us, "And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good," vs 31. The meaning here is similar to our saying, "good, better, best." As the creation went on and moved forward under God's direction it got better and better. But why would God go to the effort of having this recorded? The answer is that first of all He wanted to reveal Himself

to the only part of creation that could respond to His love and that was man. Once again we must say that God created "For Him," for Himself. Not a selfish motive, but wanting to share Himself with His special creation which was man. In order for man to enjoy His Creator, everything had to have a proper form or shape. So God created everything perfect in Form for man to use and enjoy.

But with the intelligence that God has given man, man has continually used that intelligence wrongly to question how creation actually came into existence. It is from this that we have the ungodly theories of evolution, atheism, agnosticism and so on. But God also has spoken against that and we find that recorded in Paul's letter to the Romans in chapter one.

Paul writes beginning at the 18th verse, (read verses 18-20). He is saying that God has been revealed to all mankind and there is no excuse for anyone to say "I don't know anything about God." God's revelation of Himself can be seen in the sun, the moon, the stars, trees, flowers, the sea, anywhere one looks. So there is no excuse. When a person looks at any part of nature and begins to question "how did this happen," he then is open to God's revelation and God can reveal Himself further. But if he attributed all of creation to some wild theory of a "Big bang," or "Explosion," then God is shut out of the picture and Paul adds, (read verses 21-23).

God wants man to know Him, to come to Him. That is why He provided revelation after revelation and recorded them all. When Paul wrote, "They did not honor Him," he is saying that they did not glorify God. And we must say once again that the chief end of man is to love God and glorify Him forever. He created for and from Himself, to give us "Form," and order instead of confusion and chaos. God wants us to see Him and know Him in everything of life. (Illustration of teacher telling students to observe unnoticed flower)

Who sees the unnoticed little flower blooming in the middle of the woods in the Spring? Perhaps no human being, but God sees it and gives it as evidence of His love. He reveals Himself all around us everyday. Do we see Him? Do we know Him through the greatest revelation of all? All that He wants from us is our love in return, and He will then give us more of His love. Come to Him today and rest in that creative love.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor January 28, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Ray Gamble and Wesley Miller
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
Prelude "Praise to God the Father" & "Rock of Ages"
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 497 "Like a River Glorious"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) Lord God, Our Father, in your
light do we have light, and in your love do we find
love. Show us the path anew, and lead our wayward
feet thereon. Give to us purer hearts, and
cleaner lives, and let us live as our Saviour and
your Son taught us to live. For we pray this in
His name. Amen.
*Kyrrie
*Assurance of Pardon
Praise: Leader- Blessed be the Lord God
People- And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 466 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.
Morning Prayer
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "What A Friend"
Scripture: James 2: 21-24
Sermon: "For Him: A Friend"
*Invitational Hymn No. 220 "I've Found a Friend,
O Such a Friend"
*Closing Chimes
*Benedict

*Postlude "Festive March"
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mrs. Isabel Eichhorn in memory of husband George.
Mr. & Mrs. Dick Dally will greet our members and guests
at the door this morning.
Serving as Ushers today will be Dick Mangel, Don Kingsley,
Donley Martin and Dick Dally.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Marie Henry.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Mike Roper.
Attendance last Sunday was 112 with 12 visitors.
Jim Gannon and Virginia Mangel will be visiting the
hospital this week.
Hospitalized: *MENNY HARRY DAVIS LUCILLE TACK*
UPCOMING DATES TO MARK: *217 Thursday*
February 4 - Congregational Dinner immediately after
the morning church service.
5 - Benevolence Committee will meet at 7 P.M.
7 - Council meeting at 7 P.M.
16 - VBS Preview of material and programs will
be held in Rehoboth Hall at 7 P.M.
FEBRUARY 14th - Valentine Dinner this year will be held
in Rehoboth Hall at 6:30 P.M. You have a choice of
Roast Beef or Stuffed Chicken Breast. Price is \$9.00
per person, and you can make your reservations with
Mrs. Chervyl Martin.
MOODY BIBLE CONFERENCE - it is time for the men of the
church to consider going to the Moody Bible Institute
Conference May 29th through June 1st. Please let the
office know as soon as possible if you would like to
go. We will turn in the reservations by mid February.
NOMINATIONS..... today is the last day to make nominations
for Elders and Deacons. Please give this your
attention, and make your nominations today. Drop your
list in the offering plate. Give carefull consideration
to those who would serve.
At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - JANUARY 28, 1996

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: JAMES 2:21-24

SERMON: FOR HIM A FRIEND"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 1/28/90

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

JENNY FAMILY

SCRIP: JAMES 2:21-24; SERM: "FOR HIM: A FRIEND"

(ILUS KNIGHT, L OR CASTL, & MAKING ENEMIES)

ANYONE CAN MAK ENMYS, TAKS SPECIF EPORT 2MAK FREND
G CALLD MAN, HIS NAM ABRAM

GENESIS 12 WE READ OF THAT CALL

V 1=JAMES ASKS QUESTIN

VS 22=NOT TRY SAY ABRAHAM MADE RITUS/JUSTIFYD BCUZ OB WORKS
WAT SAY IS ABRAHAM BLIEV WAT G SAY DWN 2LAST DETAIL
BUT WHY WUD HE BLIEV IF SAC ISAAC G WUD STIL FULFIL PROM OF
INUMRBL DESCENDS IF KIL OFF 1ST ONE???

DIFI 2ANSR, BUT SUMHOW ABE MUS HAV BLIEV G WUD RESURECT ISAAC
ALSO DIFI 4US 2VISULIZ IF WE WUD DO THAT IF WE RECEIV CAL FR/G
BUT THIS WAT ABE DID

VS 23=JAMES QUOTE HERE FR/GEN 15:6

VS 23B=HE WAS CALLED TH/FREND OF GOD

2OTHR TIMES IN SCRIP READ THIS - 2 CHRON 20:7; ISAIAH 41:8

term is deeper than jus frend

GRK IS=PHILOS THEO, WH/MEANS LOVER OF GOD

FAITH SO STRNG, SO DEEP LIK A CLOS INTIMAT W/GOD

SAME WORD IS USED OF JS WHER IN GOSPL ACCTS IS CALLED -----

"FRIEND OF SINNRS"

SPECIL, DEEP RELATSHIP

JS LUVS THOZ WH ENMYS OF GOD JUS AS G LUVS THOZ WHO HATE HIM

THIS RELATSHIP ABE HAD W/GOD, UNIQUE, SPECIL

BUT WHY G DO THIS????

ANSR ONCE AGIN IS FOR HIMSELF IN ORDR 2SHOW HIS GLORY 2WORLD
DID IT THRU CREATIN, THEN START DO THRU INDIVDS & ABE WAS 1ST
G START HIS WORK THRU ABE & FR/HIM WUD CUM RACE OF PEO WHO
WER G'S & WHO WUD GIV GLORY 2HIM AS LIV & SERV HIM

(ILUS MARK TWAIN & EVRYONE HE KNEW EXCEPT GOD)

F B IN RND SUMONE SEEM KNO EVERONE??

F DO THEY KNOW GOD? DO WE KNOW GOD??

CAN IT B SED OF US "WE R FREND OF GOD??"

CAN ONLY B SED IF WE SPEND TIME W/HIM, GET TO KNO HIM, LUV HIM
HOW MUCH TIME DO WE SPEND TALK TO HIM, NOT IN PRAYR, BUT JUS SHO
OUR LUV BY THINK OF HIM EACH DAY???

HE IS TH/ONE WHO WIL STAY BY OUR SIDE NO MATTR WAT CIRCUMS LIF

(ILUS SAM RAYBURN & BEING SPECIL FREND TO SOMEONE IN NEED)

HOW MUCH DUZ G MEAN TO US & R WE WIL DROP EVRTH 2SERV & LUV HIM

(ILUS JN GRIFFITH & LOSE SON GREG IN 1937)

G CAN MAK SAME CLAIM ON US

HAV TAKN WAT G GIVN-RITUSNES/JUSTIF/THRU JS

BUT G CAN CRY TO US-I HAV SAC MY S NNE FOR YOU, DONT U CARE

IF DID CARE LIVS WUD B LIVD CLOSR 2HIM & CUD B SED OF US "WE

R CALLE TH/FREND OF GOD

G SHOWD HIS GLORY 2ABE AS START OF FRENDSHIP W/THOZ WHO LUV

HIM HE C CONTINUES THAT SHOW OF GLORY THRU JS XP & SEEKS

THAT RELATSHIP W/US OF FRENDSHIP

GEN 12:1-3 G'S CALL TO ABRAM

VSS 1-3= CONTRARY WAT MAY BLIEV - ABRAM NOT GODLY MAN

LIV IDOLTRUS HOME

LIV IN IDOLTRUS NATIN

LIV AMONG IDOLTRUS PEOP

UT G CAL, TOL LV F'S HOUS & G WUD MAK GRT NATIN OF HIM

4=ABRAM 75 WEN DEPART HARAN

ABRAM WELTHY MAN

HAD MOR THAN CUD POSIBL USE

YET ANSR CAL OF G, WENT 2FOREIGN PLAC,

BLIEV PROMIS MADE TO HIM, BY A GOD HE DIDNT REALY KNOW

THAT IS FAITH

BUT FAITH IS ONLY PROMPTED BY SUMTHIN THAT IS BLIEVABLE

SUMHOW ABRAM MUS HAV BIN GIVN SPECIL REVLATIN FR/GOD THAT

PROMPT PUL UP STAKS & GO STRNG COUNTRY 2LIV

REVLATIN NO RECORD IN SCRIP

STEVEN IN SERMN RECORD ACTS 7, SPKS OF THIS & TELS GOD APEAR

2ABRAM IN MESOPOTAMIA

SPOK OF GOD REVEAL SELF & EXPEC W/REV RESPONS FR/HIS CREATIN

SPOK OF HIS CREATIN REVEAL HIS GLORY

NOW, THIS INSTANC C GOD REVEAL HIS GLORY TO A MAN

THIS REV WAS SPECIL PLAN WHEREBY WUD HAV DESCENDS 2NUMRUS 2

COUNT

AND HOW THRU HIM ABRAM ALL TH/WORL WUDB BLESSD

KNOW STORY HOW ABRAM IMPATIENT 4HEIR MESS THINGS UP

BUT G IN SPITE OF ALL THIS DID BLES ABRAM & GAV SON

THEN CHANG NAME TO ABRAHAM - FATHER OF NATIONS MULTITUDES

THIS SON WAS BGIN OF DESCENDS

THEN G MAK STRNG REQUES & READ IN GEN 22:1-2

ABRAHAM DID EVRTHING GOD TOLD HIM TO

VSS 9-10=ABRAHAM IN COMPLETE OBDIENC TO GOD'S REQUEST

G THEN INTRVEN & PROVID A LAMB

TH/POINT IS THAT ABE KNU THIS START OF PROM G MADE 2HIM

YET WAS PERFECTLY WILING 2SACRIFIC HIS ONLY SON

MAIN IS "WHY?"

HERE IT IS THAT JAMES GIVSUS TH/ANSR IN 21st VS THIS MORN SCRIP

(Ilus knight, lord of catl & NO HAV ENMYS IN WEST
U DO NOW)

James 2:21
2:22
2:23A
2:23B

2 Chron 20:7
Isa 41:8

Gr=PHILOS THEO - Lover of God

(Ilus Mark Twain & kno evrone but G)

(Ilus Sam Rayburn & frend in trubl)

(Ilus Jn Griffith & lose son in 1937)

I SACRIFICD MY SON 4U PEOP!
DONT U CARE???

For Him: A Friend"

Scripture: James 2:21-24
(Ilus knight, lord of castl & mak enemys)
Anyone can mak enemys, it taks specil efort 2mak frends
G calld a man; his nam was Abram & in Gen 12 read that call
uss 1-3=contrary 2wat may think Ab was not godly man
H liv in idoltrus hom, idoltrus natin, among idoltrus peo
but G cal & ask 2 ly f's wom & G wud mak grt natin of him
vs 4=Ab ansr that cal & obey
he was very welthy man & had mor anyth than cud posibly use
yet ansr cal of G & went 2foreign plac, Bliev prom made 2him by
a G he didnt fealy kno
that is FAITH
But faith is only promp by sumth wh/Blievbl
sumhow Ab mus receiv specil rev fr/G wh/promp pul staks & go
strng country 2liv based on prom
we no kno that rev, no record in Scrip, but Stephn in serm he
preach record in Acts 7 - spks of this & tel G apear 2Ab in
Mesopotamia
We hav spokn G rev self & expec that rev 2B respond 2 fr/His
creatin
We spok His Creatin rev His glory 2man
& now this instanc insted rev B genrl, it rev Glory 2 a man
2that man He rev he wud hav descends 2numrus 2mentin & thru him
all worl wudB bles
we all kno story how Ab Bcum impat & tak mattrs own hands &
mess it up
But G in spit that bles Ab, giv son, & chng nam 2 ABRAHAM
Gen 22:1-2=G giv ordrs
vss 9-10=Ab did all ask & G intrven provid lam
but pt this is Ab knu this start of prom 2him & yet perf wil
sac only son & quest is WHY????
it mes giv ansr & tel us 2:21
vs 22=expl w/ansr
Jam no try say Bcu works part of Ab he made ritus, or just in
site of G
wat he say Ab Bliev wat G instruc 2do & he wil 2folo G's in-
strucs dwn 2las detail
Now why wud he Bliev if he wer 2sac Is. G wud fulfil prom 2giv
Ab inumrbl descends?
Ansr=Ab Bliev G deman sac of Is. but wud sumhow resurec IS 2
fulfil prom
it dif 4us 2put selvs in Ab's plac & visuliz if we wud litrly
B wil 2offr one our childrn if receiv cal fr/G 2do so
but that exac wat Ab did & Jam ad word fr/Gen 15:6-(vs 23A)
Bcu Ab acpt by faith wat G ask of him G act or reckn Ab as B
ritus, or made rt in site of G & Jam add=vs 23B

2othr tim Scrip read this=2 Chron 20:7; Isa 41:8 2/
Ab cal=Frend of G but term has much deeper mean than jus frend
Gr=PHILOS THEO litrly mean=LUVR OF G
Ab's faith so deep, so strng he lik intimat of G
sam word usd of Js as frend of sinnrs & it mean specil, deep
relationship
G luv thoz who R enmys of G, jus as G luv worl wh/hates Him
so specil relatship wh/Ab enjoy w/G was specil/unique
But why did G do this?
ansr lys in fac, G once agin did it=For Himself in ordr 2sho His
glory 2th/worl
He did it genrly thru creatin, & then start do thru sum individs
such as Ab who was lst
G start work in Ab's lif & fr/him was 2cum race of peo who wer
G's & who wud giv glory 2Him as thev liv & serv Him
(Ilus Mark Twain & kno evrone cept G)
Think how tru this of many peo
I bin rnd sum peo & sur U hav also who seem 2kno almos evrone
they meet - But do they kno G????
Do we kno G, & can it B sed of us We R Friends of G????
that can only B sed if we spen tim w/Him & get 2kno Him
& that can only tak plac if we wil 2surendr tim 2 Him
How much tim do we spen dur busy wk comun w/G????
How oft do we turn 2our Frend in thots, rather than jus prayr &
talk 2Him, & luv Him 4B th/only One who stay by our sid no matt'r
wat circums of lif mayB????
(Ilus Sam Rayburn & his frend)
How much duz G mean 2us?
R we wil 2drop evrth that seem of mor import 2serv & folo Him???
(Ilus Jn Griffith & losing son in 1937)
& G can mak that sam claim upon many us
oh xvi, we hav takn wat He has givn:
() is just, ritusnes thru Js Xp
but G can cry out=I sac My Son 4U peo!! Dont U care????
Bcu if we did careour livs wudB livd closr 2Him than they R
It cudB sed of us=We R Calld Th/Frend of G
G showd His ~~xxxxx~~ glory 2 Ab at start of a frendship w/thos
who luv Him
He continues 2sho Glory thru Js Xp & seeks that relatship w/us
of frendship

"For Him: A Friend"

Scripture: James 2:21-24

(Illustration of knight, lord of castle, and making enemies)

In medieval times there was a knight who returned to the castle at twilight. He was in a state of total disarray. His armor was dented, his helmet was falling off, his face was bloody, his horse was crippled and he was just about falling out of the saddle.

When it was announced that he had returned the lord of the castle ran out to meet his bloody warrior. "What happened to you, Sir Knight?" the lord asked

"Oh, sire, I have been laboring in your service, robbing and plundering and pillaging your enemies in the west."

"You've what," cried the lord. "I don't have any enemies in the west."

"Oh," said the knight. "You do now!"

Anyone can make enemies. It takes a special effort to make friends. God called a man. His name was Abram. In the 12th chapter ~~xx~~ of Genesis we read of that call. Moses wrote: (read verses 1 through 3). Contrary to what we may think, Abram was not a godly man. He was living in an idolatrous home, an idolatrous nation, and among an idolatrous people. But God called him and told him to leave his father's house and God would make a great nation of him. So it is that we read in the 4th verse, "So Abram went forth as God had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran."

Abram was a very wealthy man. He had more of anything than he could possibly use. Yet he answered the call of God and went to a place that ~~was~~ was foreign to him, believing a promise made to him, by a God that he didn't really know. That is faith. But faith is only prompted by something that is believable. Somehow, Abram must have received a special revelation from God that prompted him to pull up stakes and go to a strange country to live based on a promise. We don't know what that revelation was, it is not recorded in Scripture. But Stephen in his sermon recorded in Acts 7, speaks of this, and tells that God appeared to Abram in Mesopotamia.

We have spoken of God revealing Himself and expecting with that revelation a Response from His creation. We spoke of His creation revealing His Glory. And now in this instance we see God revealing His Glory to a man. To that man He revealed a special plan whereby he would have descendants too numerous to count, and that through him all of the world would be blessed. We all know the story how Abram became impatient seeking for an heir; and how he took things into his own hands and messed the plan up. But God, in spite of that did bless Abram with a son and changed his name to Abraham. This was the beginning of his descendants, but it is then that God made a strange request of Abraham. We read of this in the 22nd chapter of Genesis in the first two verses, (read 22:1-2).

Abraham did everything as God had told him to, and we read in verses 9 & 10, (read these). God then intervened, and provided a lamb. But the point is that Abraham knew that this was the start of the promise God had made to him, and yet he was perfectly willing to sacrifice this only son. And the question is "why?" It is James who gives us the answer. He asks the question, "Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar?" verse 21.

And then he explains with an answer, "You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected," verse 22.

James is not trying to say that because of works on the part of Abraham that Abraham was made righteous, or justified in the sight of God. What he is saying is that Abraham believed what God instructed him to do and that he was willing to follow God's instructions down to the last detail. Now why would he believe that if he were to sacrifice Isaac that God would still fulfill His promise to give Abraham innumerable descendants? The answer is that Abraham simply believed that God was demanding the sacrifice of Isaac, but that God would somehow resurrect Isaac to fulfill His promise. It is difficult for us to put ourselves in Abraham's place and visualize that we would literally be willing to offer up one of our children if we received a call from God to do so. But that is exactly what Abraham did. James adds the words from Genesis 15:6, "And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, 'And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,' verse 23A.

Because Abraham accepted by faith what God asked of him, God accounted, or reckoned Abraham as being righteous or made right in His sight. And James adds, "And he was called the friend of God." verse 23B.

Two other times in Scripture do we read of this. In 2 Chronicles 20:7, and in Isaiah 41:8, Abraham is called "A friend of God." But the term has a much deeper meaning than just a "friend." In Greek it is "PHILOS THEO" which literally means, "Lover of God." Abraham's faith was so deep, so strong, that he was like a close intimate of God. The same word is used of Jesus where in the Gospel accounts He is called, "A friend of sinners." It means a special and deep relationship. Jesus loves those who are the enemies of God, just as God loves the world which hates Him. And so the special relationship which Abraham enjoyed with God was special and unique.

But why did God do this? The answer lies in the fact that God once again did it "For Himself" in order to show His glory to the world. He did it generally through Creation, and then He started doing it through some individuals such as Abraham who was the first. God started His work in Abraham's life and from him was to come a race of people who were God's and who would give glory to Him as they lived and served Him.

(Illustration of Mark Twain and everyone he knew)

Mark Twain once traveled to Europe and he took his little daughter with him. Everywhere he went he was greeted by people that knew him and he knew them. There were kings and queens, and princes, and prime ministers, and heads of state. Each time he met someone his daughter was duly impressed. But one night when they were all alone she asked him a very profound question. She said, "Papa, you know everyone but God don't you?"

Think how true this is of so many people. I've been around some people and I'm sure you have also who seem to know almost everyone they meet. But do they know God? Do we know God and can it be said of us, "We are friends of God?" That can only be said if we are willing to spend time with Him and get to know Him. And that can only take place if we are willing to surrender our time to Him. How much time do we spend during our busy week communing with God? How often do we turn to our "Friend" in our thoughts, rather than just in prayer ~~xxxx~~ talking to Him and loving Him for being the only One who will stay by our side no

matter what the circumstances of life are?

(Illustration of Sam Rayburn and making breakfast for a friend)

Sam Rayburn was the speaker of the House of Representatives longer than anyone else. One of his friends lost a teenage daughter and early the next morning Rayburn rapped on his door. "I just came by to see ~~if I could do anything~~ what I could do to help." The father replied, there was nothing he could do. "Well," Rayburn said, "have you had your ~~breakfast~~ ~~breakfast~~ coffee this morning?" The man replied that they had not taken time for breakfast. So Sam Rayburn went into the kitchen and proceeded to make breakfast for the family. The man came in and said, "Mr Speaker, I thought you were supposed to have breakfast at the White House with the president this morning?" "Well, I was, but I called the President and told him I had a friend who was in trouble and I couldn't come."

How much does God mean to us? Are we willing to drop everything that seems of more importance to serve Him and follow Him?

(Illustration of John Griffith and losing son in 1937)

Back in 1937 a ~~man~~ Missouri man held the job as controller of a railroad drawbridge across the Mississippi River. His name was John Griffith. One day in the summer of that year he took his eight-year-old son Greg with him. At noon, he put the bridge up to allow boats to pass while they ate their lunch sitting on the observation deck. Time passed quickly. Suddenly he was startled by the shrieking of a train whistle off in the distance. He looked at his watch and it was 1:07 which meant that the Memphis Express with four hundred passengers on board was roaring toward the raised bridge. He ran back to the control tower. Just before he threw the switch he looked down to see if there were any ships below. But what he saw caused him to freeze in his tracks. His son Greg had slipped on the observation deck and had fallen into the massive gears which operated the bridge. His left leg was caught in the cogs of the two main gears. He desperately thought of a rescue plan. But he knew it was impossible for there was the train whistle again, that much closer. He knew what he had to do. And he covered his eyes with his left arm as he threw the ~~main~~ master switch forward. The bridge just lowered in time and the train roared over the bridge. He looked down and could see the passengers in the train, reading, looking out the window, women drinking coffee in the dining car and not one of the people even looked up at the control tower, or noticed the bridge for that matter. With tears streaming down his face he cried out in heart wrenching agony - "I sacrificed my son for you people! Don't you care?" The train rushed on into the distance and no one heard the anguished cry of that father in his grief.

And God can make that same claim upon many of us. Oh sure, we have taken what He has given. Ours is justification, righteousness before God through His Son Jesus Christ. But God can cry out to us, "I sacrificed My Son for you! people! Don't you care?" Because if we did care, our lives would be lived closer to Him. It could be said of us, "We are called the friend of God." God showed His glory to Abraham as the start of a friendship with those who love Him. He continues that show of glory through Jesus Christ and seeks that relationship with us of friendship.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor February 4, 1990
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Jimmy Shearer and Nicole Merrison
+ + + + +

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 98 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) Our Father, now that we have seen
and known the manifestation of your Son and our Lord,
we pray that it may become more evident in our lives.
Refute the prejudice that makes us hate others;
upset the selfishness that blinds us to the debt we
owe our fellowman; disturb the complacency that
keeps us from your service; and cleanse us from all
that would offend you. Help us Lord to become
more faithful to you in all that we do. We pray
this in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ. Amen.
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Pastor - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment with Bob
Hymn No. 56 "God Will Take Care of You"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.
Morning Prayer
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings "Only Believe"
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "With Thankful Hearts"
Scripture: Exodus 2: 23-25
Sermon: "For Him: Promises Kept"

*Invitational Hymn No. 580 "There Shall be Showers of
Blessing"

*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The Beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mrs. Mid Diefenderfer in memory of Jack Diefenderfer.
Mr. & Mrs. David Weyand will greet our members and guests
at the door this morning.
Ushering today will be Marty Henry, John Snow, Walter
Hollefreund and Jeff Snyder.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Cathy Sheppeck.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Marty Henry.
Attendance last Sunday was 132 with 13 visitors.
Lloyd Link and Ray Isherwood will be visiting the
hospital this week.
Hospitalized: *VALERIE DODDS*

> MEETINGS THIS WEEK:
Monday at 7 P.M. - Benevolence Committee will meet.
Wednesday at 7 P.M. - Council Meeting
> SPAGHETTI DINNER will be hosted by the Activities Committee
on Saturday, February 10th from 4:30 to 7 P.M. We
would like to have a few more helpers also. Please
spread the word and bring a friend when you come. This
is "all you can eat" Italian spaghetti. *HELP*
VALENTINE DINNER is set for February 14th in Rehoboth Hall.
Make your reservations with Mrs. Chervyl Martin. The
cost is \$9.00 per person with a choice of Roast Beef or
Stuffed Chicken Breast. Deadline is February 11th. Let's
all join in an evening of fellowship and good food.
> VBS Preview of material and programs will be held in
Rehoboth Hall on February 16th at 7 P.M. All those who
may be interested in helping out with VBS is welcome to
attend and get ideas.
Today begins the Choirs answers to your requests. These
requests will be sung during the taking up of the
offering. This will be done on the first Sunday of the
month. So keep your requests coming.
At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - JULY 20, 1997

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

BAPTISM TODAY - 4:00 PM, INDIANA YMCA POOL
SPECTATORS - YES

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 2:21-25

SERMON: "FOR HIM: PROMISES KEPT"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 2/4/90

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

ANNIVERSARY OF CHURCH - BOBBIE

MARTHA / FAMILY

TONY

LYNN - CATH

CHARLOTTE

BOBBIE - JAW

JEAN

PAULINE

SCRIP: EX 2:23-25; SERM: "FOR HIM: PROMISES KEPT"

(ILLUS YNG FARMR & PROMISES HE WIL KEEP IF SHE MARRYD HIM)

THAT GIRL WAS SMART - IT SO EASY MAK PROMS, BUT DIF 2KEEP THEM

BUT THER IS ONE WHO HAS NEVR MADE PROM HE DIDNT KEEP

SYNOP MOSES LIF:

BORN-HID:RAIS BY PHAR DOTTR:FLED 4LIF BCUZ KIL EGYTIN:KEPT SHEET

-) 40YRS:WHIL THER MARRYZIPORAH,SHE GAV BIRTH SON=GERSHOM

SONS NAM GIV EVIDENC MOSES HOMESICK 4EGYPT

GER=ALIEN STRANGER) THUS MOSES SAY HE AN ALIEN, ASTRANGER THERE,

SHOW THERE) & IT NOT HIS HOMELAND

VS 23= PEO OF G BIN IN EGYPT AS BONDSLAV OVER 400 YRS

STIL G'S PEO,THO SEVERLY OPRESSD & ONE WHO WUD LEAD FR/CAP BIN

LIV MIDIAN 40YRS

(ILLUS HISTORY OF PHAROAH'S DAUGHTER & NEPHEW SHE RAISED)

VS 24=MOSES NOW RECORDS THIS

DUNNT MEAN GOD OBLIVIOUS 2GROANS B4,JUS MEAN TIME RT 4 GOD 2SET

PLAN IN MOTIN

VSS 25B-25-G AWAIR OF THIS ALL TH/TIME - HE NO ASLEEP/IGNOR PLITE

TH/TIME WAS NOW WAT SCRIP XX WAS SAYING

GOD WAS PROVID OPORTUNITY APEAR B4MOSES & TEL HIM HIS PLAN

CHAP 3:2=MOSESTAK CARE FATHR-IN-LAW'S SHEEP

ANGEL OF LORD IS=PRE-INCARNATE APEARANG OF JX XP

NOTICE ALSO ANGEL OF LORD APEAR IN MIDST BURN BUSH=FIRE

THIS PARALEL WEN CHILDEN ISRA IN FIERY FURNAC BK OF DAN

KING PUT 3 IN, LR IN FURNAC & C 4 MEN

VSS 3-4=MOSES LR & G CAL & MOSES ANSR -"HERE AM I"

G CALLD, & REVEAL SELF 2MOSES
 NOTIC VS 4=USE BOTH LORD & GOD & AGAIN
 SPK APPEARANC OF JS XP
 VSS 5-8=G SPKS MOSES & TEL OF FROM MADE
 (ILUS NEW MEMBR KANSAS REPS & PROMIS)
 G DUNT NEED WATCH WAT SAY OR DO HE NEVR
 MA' PROMIS NO KEEP
 (1...& TWO GIRLS COMPAR MONEY THEY HAVE)
 THIS HOW G IS,MAKS PROMS & PROMS KEPT
 QUESTIN PEOP ISR NEVR GET LAND MILK/HONEY??
 THAT TRU 4THOZ W/NARROW VIEWPT
 BUT G'S PROMS ALWAY MANY FACETED & HAV ING
 RANG OUTLK
 WEN G FROM LAND PERFECTIN CUDNT HAV MENT
 THIS ERTH BCUZ MAN SPOIL G'S PERFECTIN
 W/SIN
 THUS G'S FROM WAS 2B SUMTH WH/ONLY HE CUD
 BRING BOUT
 WEN G FROM DELIVRER PEO PROB THOZ MOSES,
 OR KINGS,SAUL,DAVID,SOLOMON
 BUT EA THEZ MEN NOT TH/ONES G PROMIS
 WE MUS LK AT TH/WHOL PICTUR WH/OUR BIBLE
 PRESENTS
 STARTING IN THE 3rd CHAPTR OF GEN WE HAV
 TH/PROMIS OF A SVIOR
 G PROMISD DAVID A SUCESSOR ON HIS THRON WHO
 WUD RULE FOREVR
 IF LK AT PROPH OF ISAIAH WE HAV 2GRT PROMS
 WH/CUD ONLY FIT ONE PERSN
 II HAP 7, vs 14= WE READ *** READ THIS

3/
 ISA 7:14=TH/NAME IMMANUEL MEANS "GOD WITH US"
 WHAT OTHR PERSN EVR APEARD OR ACTED LIK GOD ON ERTH??
 TH/ANSR IS "NO ONE, EXCEPT JESUS CHRIST"
 THEN IN ISA 9:6-7=WE READ ---- READ THESE VERSES
 A PORTIN OF THIS HAS BEEN FULFILLED, WHILE TH/REST OF IT IS
) TO BE FULFILLED IN G'S ETERNAL KINGDOM
 TH/LAND FLOWING W/MILK & HONEY IS TO BE FULFILLED AT ANOTHER TIME
 IT IS THRU TH/SUPFRING & DETH OF JS THAT WE CAN HAV THAT RE-
 STORD RELATINSHIP W/GOD
 THRU XP WE CAN HAV TH/FORGIVNES OF OUR SINS,& ETRNTY W/GOD
 BUT IN & THRU XP WE HAV BOTH NOW & IN ETRNTY TH/POLOWING WHICH
 AN UNKNOWN WRITR HAS WRITTN DOWN:
 (ILUS "WHAT WE HAV IN XP")
 BUT THER THOZ WHO ACUS XPIANS OF A TOO EASY "BLIEVISM"
 G'S PLAN OF SALVATIN SEEMS 2SIMPL 2BLIEV & SUM BLIEV THER IS
 MOR TO IT
 THIS BIN PROB OF MAN DWN THRU AGES
 ISRAELITES BLIEVD G WUD DELTVR THEM FR/BONDAH & THEN PROVID
 EVRTH THEY NEED W/no probs agin
 BUT FR/THEN TO NOW G HAS FULFIL ALL HE SED HE WUD W/THE EXCEPTN
 OF TH/FINAL DAY WH/ARE B COMPLETD EVN AS U & I LIV
 AS G REVEAL HIS GLORY 2MOSES IT WAS FOR "HIM," "FOR HIMSELF"
 SO HE CUD REVEAL TH/REST OF HIS PLAN
 (ILUS GOETHE QUOTE BOUT BREAKING OF GOD'S HEART)
 TH/DELIVRANC OF PEO OF ISR WAS TH/MODEL WH/ULT LED TO TH/CROSS
 OF JS XP
 GOD DID IT FOR "HIMSELF" & IT IS & WAS TH/REVELATIN & COMPLET
 FULFIMENT OF MANY PROMISES MADE, BUT MANY OF THEM KEPT, AND
 STY MOR 2B FULFILLED IN COMING DAYS & YEARS.

(Ilus ynf farmr & ask girl mary him & proms made)
HENRY, DO THOZ THINGS & THEN ASK ME AGIN

GER=alien strngr He alien strngr the Mid & not real homeland=homsik
SHOM=ther
Rameses II Bgin opresin
THUORIS=dottr rais Mos
SF JS=nephew she gardian
7y. aftr Thupris dy-Sethos rul uppr Egypt-latr all Egypt

1800's song Egyptins:
TH/CHIEF OF TH/VILAG, TH/CHIEF OF TH/VILAG, MAY TH/DOGS TEAR HIM, TEAR
HIM, TEAR HIM.
boys/girls=THEY STARV US, THEY STARV US, THEY BEAT US, THEY BEWT US
Chorus=BUT THER'S ONE ABUV, THERS ONE ABUV WHO WIL PUNISH THEM WEL,
WHO WIL PUNISH THEM WEL

Ch 3-Angl of L=pre-incarnat apearnc Js
vs 4=G & Lord- Js agin
vss 5-7

(Ilus Geo Jelinek & prom=I WIL WORK 4 U)

(Ilus girls & pennies hav - I HAV TFN, My DAD FROM giv 5mor)

Exempl mistakn notin bout Land Flo Milk/Honey

(Ilus Goethe quote:

IF I WER G, THIS WORLD OF SIN & SUFFRING WUD BRAK MY HART

"For Him: Promises Kept"

Scripture: Exodus 2:23-25

(Ilus yng farmr promises girl 2fix evrth if she wil mary him:
her ansr=Do thoz thing then ask agin)

That girl was smart Bcuz so easy mak proms-mor dif 2keep them
But ther One who has made all kinds proms & has nevr missd one
all kno story how Mos born/raisd by Phar's dottr
then hgw kil Egyptin, & flee & Bcum shepherdr 4 - 4oyrs

Whil ther mary Zipporah, hav son nam Gershom
nam indicat Mos in Midian homsik 4 Egypt Bcuz GER=alien, strngr,
SHOM=ther

Mos say=he alien, strngr ther, & it not his real homland
vs 23=peo Is. bin in Egpt ovr 400 yrs & wer now liv as bondslavs
th/one who evntly led them out had bin liv Midian 4oyrs

RAMESES II was Phar who Bgun opresin
he fathr of THUORIS-th/princes who rescu Mos & raisd as son
Opresin sumwat lessnd wen Mos B raisd in royl cort prob thru
influ of THUORIS

but wen Mos fled she withdrew deep disapoint 2-Uppr Egypt
wher she exerciz govt as gardian of infant Nephew SETHOS
she recogniz him as her heir

7yr aftr this THUORIS dyd lv nephew SETHOS 2rul Uppr Egypt
Wen Phar dy sevr yrs latr, SETHOS now rul all of Egypt & sinc
he now rul th/aliens his grndfathr sot 2crush, & sinc he knu
his aunt had raisd Mos, A Jew who had causd her much anguish,
his zeal 4opresin & persecutin of Jews that much mor viogrus
in 1800's Egyptins wer stil use slav labr use own peo & sing song:
Th/chief of th/vilag, th/chief of th/vilag, may th/dogs tear him,
tear him, tear him

then boys wud sing one part & girls othr & chorus went:
They starv us, they starv us, they beat us, they beat us
& then both sing 2gethr-But ther's one abuv, thers sum one abuv,
I wil punish them wel, who wil punish them wel.

This w/perhaps a few chngs may wel hav bin cry of Isites as ther
burdns wer increas & harshr treatmen was givn Bcuz SETHOS angr
concern Mos

So now as read Vs 23-they cry out & this 1st tim read this & thei
cry mus hav bin unify cry fr/all them

Mos record-Vs 24A=this no mean G nevr herd them B4 & obliivus
all it say=ther conditin such, & tim was rt 4-G 2set plan motin
this also wat ment wen read wat follows=Vss 24B-25

G awar them all tim-He no asleep or ignor ther plite
th/tim was now is wat Scrip say
thus it was G provid oportuntiy 2appear B4 Mos & tel Mos of plan
Chap 3:2=Mos tak care sheep

Th/angl of L we mus pt out was Pre-incarnat apear of Js
It intrest 2note Angl of L apear in bush burn & this similar
3men in fiery furnac in buk Dan wher ther 4men seen by King

vs 4=Say both Lord, & God & agin this indicatin of apear Js Xp 2/
Vss 5-7=Here G tel Mos of prom He had made

(Ilus Geo Jelinek & prom=I will work 4U-& farmr tak up on it)
G duznt need 2watch wat He says, or did say-He nevr maks proms He
will not keep

(Ilus 2girls cp mony hav & prom of one dad 2giv mor mony)

Th exactly how G is-He promises & His promises R kept

hwevr, ther thoz who wud say, altho G delivr peo of Is. & tuk
in2 wat cal=Prom Land they nevr did hav land-Flo Milk & Honey
& that is tru

but we need 2 lk Byond=Bcuz that prom is one w/many ovrtones
4thoz w.narro vu pt ment land jus B4 them wh/certly didnt match
that descriptin

G's plans R many faceted & having lng rang outlk
wen G prom land of perfectin He cudnt hav ment earth Bcuz man had
causd G's ~~xxx~~ perfec 2 Bcum imperf & taint w/sin

thus G's prom was 2B sumth wh/only He cud bring bout

& wen G prom He wud send delivrer peo Is. may pt at Mos & sed
G ment him

or cud hav lk ea king lik=Saul, Dav, Sol & thot G ment them

but in ea instanc thez men simply wer not prom one 2set free
but read G's prophs & note how many thez fulfil in lif Js Xp we
can put all this 2gethr & C how G fulfil prom of land Milk/Honey
It land G provid etrnty w/Him

WilB land G provid wen creat Nu Hvn & Nu erth as prom Rev.

G's plan salv seem 2simpl 2sum who want 2Bliev ther mor 2it than
wat it is

this bin prob of man dwn thru all thez ages

th/peo Is. Blievd G was go 2delivr fr/bondag & then provid evrth
need & no probs agin

But G has fulfil as He sed w/exceptin of final days wh/R being
complet as U & I liv

As reveal His Glory 2 Mos it was=4 Him, 4 Himself so He cud
reveal res of plan

Goethe sed=IF I WER G, THIS WORL OF SIN & SUFFR WUD BRAK MY HART
It did brk G's hart -- On th/Cross

th/delivranc of th/peo of IS. was model wh/u;timatly led 2

th/Cros of Js Xp

He did it 4 Himself & it was the revelatin & complet fulfilmen
of Promises Kept

"For Him: Promises Kept"

Scripture: Exodus 2:21-25

(Illustration of young farmer and promises he will keep if she married him)

A young bachelor farmer said to this special girl, "If you will marry me I'll get all the latest farming equipment to make things easier for us, I'll put plumbing in the house, I'll get a new milking machine for you, I'll get a new washer, and drier, and dishwasher. I'll fix everything so your work will be easier."

The girl answered, "Henry, suppose you do all of those things and then ask me again."

And that girl was smart. It is so easy to make promises, but it is more difficult to keep them. But there is One who has never made a promise that He didn't keep.

We all know the story of Moses how he was born and raised by Pharaoh's daughter. And then how he had to flee for his life because he killed an Egyptian who was physically abusing a fellow Jew; and how he was a shepherd for forty years. While there he married Zipporah and she gave birth to a son. In our Scripture we read that Moses named this son "Gershom," ~~which means~~ The name which Moses gave his son gives an indication that Moses in Midian was homesick for Egypt. "Ger" means, "alien, stranger," "Shom" is related to "there." Thus, Moses is saying that he was an alien, a stranger there, it was not his real homeland.

"Now it came about in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died. And the son of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of their bondage rose up to God." verse 23.

The people of God had been in Egypt as bondslaves for over 400 years. They were still God's people even though they were severely oppressed. The one who would eventually lead them out of bondage had fled Egypt and had been living in Midian for 40 years. Rameses II was the Pharaoh who began the oppression. He was the father of THUORIS the princess who rescued Moses and raised him as her son. The oppression was somewhat lessened while Moses was being raised in the royal court and this was probably due to the influence of THUORIS. But when Moses fled THUORIS withdrew in deep disappointment to Upper Egypt where she exercised the government ~~as~~ as a guardian of an infant nephew SETHOS, whom she now recognized as her ~~heir~~ heir. Seven years after this THUORIS died leaving her nephew Sethos to reign in Upper Egypt. When the Pharaoh died several years later, Sethos now ruled all of Egypt. Since he now ruled the aliens his grandfather Rameses II tried to crush, and since he probably knew all about the Jew his aunt had raised and who caused her such anguish, his zeal for the oppression and persecution of the Jews was that much more vigorous. In the 1800's the Egyptians were still using slave labor using many of their own people. A song surfaced which was sung by these slaves which indicates their feelings toward their masters. The words were: "The chief of the village, the chief of the village, may the dogs tear him, tear him, tear him." Then the boys would sing one part of the chorus and the girls would sing the other. The chorus went like this: They starve us, they starve us, 'They beat us, they beat us,' to which they would both sing, "But there's ~~some one above~~ some one above, there's some one above, who will punish them well, who will punish them well." This with perhaps a few changes may well have been the cry of the Israelites as their burdens were increased and harsher treatment was given to them because of Sethos's anger concerning Moses. The Israelites cried out; and here we read for the first time that this cry must have been a unified cry from all of

them. It was a united, unified cry of the people which rose up to God.

Moses then records, "So God heard their groaning," verse 24A. This doesn't mean that God was oblivious to their groaning before. All it is saying is that their condition was such that the time was right for God to set His plan into motion. This is also what is meant when we read what follows, "And God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, And God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice of them," Verses 24B-25.

God was aware of them all the time. He was not asleep or ignoring their plight. The time was now is what the Scripture is saying.

Thus it was that God provided the opportunity to appear before Moses and tell Moses of His plan. So Moses was taking care of the sheep and we read in the 2nd verse of chapter 3, (Read this verse.) The angel of the Lord we must point out was ~~xx~~ a pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus. It is also interesting to note that in this passage, the "Angel of the Lord" appeared in the midst of this burning bush which is similar to the three men in the fiery furnace as told in the book of Daniel. The king looked, and instead of three men in the fire, there were four. So here God speaks to Moses from the bush and Moses answers, "Here I Am." God called, He revealed Himself again and He is looking for a response. The 4th verse also tells us, "When the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him." Notice, it uses both the names, "Lord" and "God." Again, this is an indication of an appearance of Jesus ~~Christ~~ Christ.

Then God speaks to Moses, (read verses 5-7). Here God is telling Moses of a promise He had made.

(Illustration of newly elected member of Kansas House of Representatives)

George Jelinek was elected as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives. During the campaign he had distributed handbills which ~~said~~ promised, "I will work for you."

Later he said, "One farmer told me he voted for me and now he needed some help putting up alfalfa." And he said he went out and helped the farmer. "But," he said, "I'm going to have to watch what I say."

God doesn't need to watch what He says or did say. He never makes a promise that He will not keep.

(Illustration of two little girls comparing how much money they had) said to the
Two little girls were talking about how much money they had. The one ~~asked~~ other,
"I have five pennies, how many do you have?" "I have ten," the other girl said. ~~Then~~
"Let me see," the first girl said. The little girl opened her hand and the other girl
counted the pennies and said, "You only have five." "I know," she answered, "but my
Daddy told me he would give me five more tonight. So I have ten."

That is exactly how God is. He promises and His Promises are Kept.

However, there are those who would say that although God delivered the people of Israel and took them into what was called "The Promised Land," they never ~~did~~ have a land "Flowing with milk and honey." And that is true. But we need to look beyond. That promise was one with many overtones. For those with a narrow viewpoint it meant just the land before them which certainly didn't match that description. But God's plans have always been many faceted and having a long range outlook. When God promised a land of perfection He couldn't have meant this earth because man had caused God's perfection to be tainted with his sin. Thus, God's promise was to be something which only He could bring about. And when God promised that He

would send a deliverer, the people of Israel may have pointed at Moses and said that God meant him. Or they could have looked at each of the kings like Saul, David, and Solomon and though God meant them. But in each instance these men simply were not the promised One to set them free. But reading God's prophecies and noting how many of these were fulfilled in the life of Jesus Christ; and knowing that He died and rose from the grave, we can put all of this together and see how God has fulfilled His promise of a land flowing with milk and honey.

It is a land which God has provided in eternity for every believer. But it is also a land which will be when God creates the new heaven and the new earth.

God's plan of salvation seems too simple to too many who want to believe there must be more to it than what it is. This has been the problem of man down through all of these ages. The people of Israel believed that God was going to deliver them from bondage and then was going to provide everything they needed without any problems again. But God has fulfilled all He has said He would do with the exception of the final days which are being completed even as you and I live.

As God revealed His glory to Moses, it was "For Him," for Himself so that He could reveal the rest of His plan. It was Goethe who said: "If I were God, this world of sin and suffering would break my heart." It did break God's heart ----- on the cross. The deliverance of the people of Israel was the model which ultimately led to the cross of Jesus Christ. He did it "For Himself" and it was ^{AND IS} the revelation and complete fulfillment of "Promises Kept."

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor February 11, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Nicole Merrison and Jimmy Shearer
+ + + + +

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

Joys

Prayer Requests

*Processional Hymn No. 21 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*Ascription

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) O God, we confess to you our
previous sins as members of your Church. We have not
led a life worthy of the calling; we have been over-
protective of ourselves, and not enough concerned for
others. We have used your Word of truth to accomplish
our own ends, and not to fulfill your Will. We have
been noisy when we should be silent. We have not
obeyed your Word read and preached to us. O Father,
Head of the Church, cleanse us and keep us accountable
to you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Kyrie

*Assurance of Pardon

*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Children's Moment

Hymn No. 108 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You

People - And with Thy Spirit

Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology - page 382

Anthem: "It Is No Secret"

Scripture: Exodus 29: 42-46

Sermon: "For Him: A Home"

*Invitational Hymn No. 96 "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow"

*Choral Benediction "Shalom To You" (congregation join in)

*Benediction

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. George Pflugh in memory of Pam.

The arrangement of flowers has been given in memory of
Mrs. Grace Riddle by her grandson, Dave Krebs.

Miss Vicki Winrader will greet our members and friends at
the door this morning.

Ushering today will be Jeanne Snyder, Judy Shearer, Mid
Diefenderfer and Helen Crawford.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Dawna Rhodaberger.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Joe Youngblood.

Attendance last Sunday was 113 with 8 visitors.

Rick Vinroe and Art Snyder will be visiting the hospital
this week.

Hospitalized: ⁰⁰⁷Uldene Dodds in BMH also Gottlob Kradel

PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet Tuesday evening at 7:30 P.M.
Mary Martha Circle is still collecting Campbell's labels
and old sheets to make bandages to be sent overseas to
missionary work. If you have any please see members of
the Mary Martha Circle.

> Laymen's Dinner "Youth Night" will be held February 15th at
St. John's Reformed Church, 493 Evans City Rd. Tickets
are \$5.00 and may be purchased from Jake Harmon.

> Daily Bread Booklets and the 1989 Yearbooks are in the
Narthex for you to pick up.

> SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND ELDERS are having a meeting on
Tuesday evening at 7:00 P.M. We need everyone there!!!

> VALENTINE DINNER - Wednesday at 6:30P.M. Today is the last
day to make your reservations with Mrs. Chervyl Martin.
Price is \$9.00 per person with a choice of Roast Beef
or Stuffed Chicken Breast.

> FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16th at 7:00 P.M. there will be a preview
of all VBS material in Rehoboth Hall. We hope that we
will see some of you out to help with VBS.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - FEBRUARY 11, 1996

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYER FROM KANSAS LEGISLATURE

LENT BEGINS NEXT WEDNESDAY FEB 21, LORD'S SUPPER NEXT SUNDAY???

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 29:42-46

SERMON: ~~XXXX~~ "FOR HIM: A HOME"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 2/11/90

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

EVIE - CANTER

CORNMAN FAMILY

KEARY

VAUGHN

FISHER FAMILY - MOUNTAIN

SCRIP: EX 29:42-46; SERM: "FOR HIM: A HOME" ①

(ILUS FAMILY SETUP TENT & RPES FOR CAMPING - SIMPL RULE)

PEO MOV OUT EGYPT & CAMP LONG WAY
MUS BCUM VERY ADEPT AT SETUP - BRK CAMP & MOVE
MOSES BIN SUMON MT SINAI BY GOD FOR 2ND TIME
GOD TEL HIM WAT HE EXPEC OF TH/PEOPL

CH. 25 CONVERSATION GOD HAD W/MOSES - READ VSS 1-9

VS 42-TENT OF MEET NOTHR TERM FOR TABERNACL

HE TELS MEET W/THEM & SPK W/THEM IN TAB

VSS 43-44-TAB 2SERV AS MMET PLAC TWEEN G & HIS PEOP

VSS 44-45-WUD KNO THRU TAB WHO THIS G WAS
IF U CURRENT IN ~~XXXX~~ READING BIBL THRU IN A YR, RECOGNIZ THIS
PORTIN OF SCRIP READ THIS PAST WEEK.

THEZ CHAPS TEL CONSTRUC OF TAB

SUM OF IT TEDIUS READ BUT IN DETAILS CAN C EACH PART HAS
DEF MEAN & PURPOS 4 WAT G WUD EVENTULY REVEAL

CHAP 40 TEL IN DETAIL OF MOSES ERECTING TH/FINISHD PRODUCT
TELS IN DETAIL HOW MOSES DID IT OR SAW THAT IT WAS DUN

VS 8=G RELATS 2MOSES HIS DESIR

IN HEBREW SANCTUARY MEANS:

A CONSECRATD THING OR PLACE

ESPECILY A PALACE OR SANCTUARY - WHETHR OF JEHOVAH OR IDOL
OR ASYLUM

A CHAPEL, A HALLOWED PART, HOLY PLACE

G ASK HIS PEOP CONSTRUC PLACE SO CAN DWEL W/THEM

BGIN JURNY - PILLAR OF CLOUD - PILLAR OF FIRE

NOW WANT B W/THEM MOR INITIMAT WAY WUD REVEAL SELF BETTR
SO G GIV SPECIF INSTRUC CONCERN BILD OF TABRACLE

HEBREW TABERNACLE MEANS:

A TENT

A COVERING

A RESIDENCE

A HOME

THUS GOD TEL MOSES HE DESIR HAV A HOME AMONG HIS PEOP

G GAV INSTRUCS 4BURNT OFFR AS RED IN SCRIP

VS 42 TEL US - (READ)

8 DIF TIMES READ CHAP 40 HOW MOSES SAW TO IT SUMTH WAS DUN
SCRIP TEL US "JUS AS TH/LORD HAD COMANDED MOSES"

END VS 33=WE READ "SO MOSES FINISHED THE WORK"

THEN READ: - VSS 34-38

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

TV THINGS HAPPN WEN G SANTIFY OR DEDICAT TAB

SUMTHIN INSID

ONE PC FURN IN HOLY OF HLOYS - ARK OF COVENANT

SQUAR BOX - BOX WAS ARK & LID MEBY SEAT

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

ON LID TWO GOLD ANGELS BOW 2WARD EA OTHR & AS BOW WINGS
SWEPT UPWARD & MET OVR MERCY SEAT

AT TIM OF DED G MOVS IN2 H OF HOLYS & DWELT UNDR ANGLS WINGS
TAB HAD NO WINDOWS & HI PR HAD GO IN2 H OF HOLYS 2MINSTR

HOW DID HE C??

NO FLICKRING OIL LAMP THER, JUS DARK ROOM

ABL 2C BCUZ GLORY OF G LIT ROOM W/HIS PRESENC

THINK WAT THAT EXPERIENC MUS MENT 2THAT PR

HE KNU HE IN PRESENC OF ALMITY GOD

G'S LITE TRANSFIGUR EVRTH IN TABRACL

WAT HAPPN 2BUSH WEN G SPK W/MOSES ????

WAT HAPPN WEN MOSES WENT IN 2SPK W/GOD ????

LITE TRANSFIGUR BUSH & TAB TRANSFIGUR, & FACE OF MOSES TRANSFIGUR

HIS FACE SHOWN WE R TOLD & HE HAD 2PUT VEIL ON 2COVR IT

BUTY OF TAB NOT IN INTRICAT WORK MAN CUD DO W/GOLD/TAPSTRY
OR WOOD

EVTRH WAS TRANSFORMD BY LITE OF G'S PRESENC & THIS WAS BUTY OF
TABRACL

BUT SUMTHIN HAPPN OUTSIDE AS WELL

VSS 34-35=CLOUD ACTLY SUBDU G'S GLORY BCUZ IF PEO HAD SEEN FULL
BNGTH WUD BIN CONSUM 4NO MAN CAN C G DIRECTLY & LIV

THAT WHY THIK VEIL REQUIR IN TAB - SUBDU COMPLET LITE OF GOD

LATR SOL BUILD BUTYFUL MAGNIF TEMPL TO GOD - VEIL OF TEMPL

G'S GLORY TRANSFER 2TEMPL FR/TABRACL

G REVEAL 2PROPH EZEK WAT HAD TAKN PLAC DWN THRU THE YERRS

TOLD DIG HOLE IN TEMPL WALL - DID SO & HOLE WAS ON WALL THAT

ENTR HOLY OF HOLIES & G SHO DESECRATIN WH/TAKN PLACE THER

70 MEN EA W/CENSR BURN INCENS FALS G'S

NORTHERN ENTRANC TEMPL GRP WOMN WEEP 4TAMMUZ BABYLONIAN GODDESS

25 MEN W/BAKS TO TH/TEMPL WORSHIP SUN GOD

WTHIS G WAS 2TAK HIS GLORY FR/HIS HOUS & HIS PEOPLE

EZEK 11:22-23=THEN THE CHERUBIM LIFTD UP THER WINGS W/TH WHEELS

BSID THEM, & TH/GLORY OF TH/G OF ISR HOVRD OVR THEM. AND THE

GLORY OF TH/LORD WENT UP FR/TH MIDST OF TH/CITY, & STUD OVR THE

MNTN WH/IS EAST OF THE CITY

NOW WAT IS EZEKIEL SAYING - TURN HAGGAI 2

EZEKIEL IS SAY GLORY OF G WENT OUT THRU EAST GATE OF TEMPL
IN JER

IT THRU EAST GATE PRO WENT INTO KIDRON VALLY & MTN TALK BOUT
IS MT OF OLIVES - THEZ PROMINENT IN ERTHLY MINSTRY JS
G'S GLORY HOVRD OVR THAT MT - MT OF OLIVES & THEN TAKN AWAY
G'S GLORY DISAPEARD ENTIRLY FR/ISRAEL

THEN THEY WENT INTO BABYLONIAN CAPTIVT FOR 70 YEARS
WE HEY RETURN READ OF REBILD TEMPL,BUT NO READ RETURN OF GLORY
OF GOD TO TH/TEMPL

HAGGAI PROPH WROT IN CHAP 2 HIS PROPHECY VERSES 4-9 - READ

VS 7=DESIR OF ALL NATINS IS TH/PROMISD MESSIAH

WAT G IS SAY IS ONE DAY HIS GLORY WILB REVEAL AGIN IN THAT NXX
NATION

NOT IN A BUSH,NOR IN TRANSFIGUR MAN LIK MOSES,NOT A TABRACL,
NOR IN A TEMPL, BUT IN A PERSON

THAT PERSON HAS APEARD ONCE TO TH/WORLD,BUT ULTIMATLY IN HISTRY
HE WIL APEAR COMPLETELY & FULLY ZALL MANK AT TIME OF G'S CHOOZIN

(ILUS WIVES WAIT 4HUSBANDS CUM HOM FR/FISH AT SEA)

THAT IS PT WE R AT RITE NOW

TH/WORL WAITD AS G REVEAL SELF THRU TAB,THRU MEN,THR TEMPL &
THRU JS XP

BUT HE TUK HIS GLORY AWAY FR/WORL & WE CAN ONLY HAV THAT GLORY
AGIN THRU JS XP

BUT HIS PROMIS IS THAT ONE DAY HE WIL RETURN 2REVEAL HIS GLORY
4ALL WORL 2C - WE R 2NOT ONLY B WAITING WE R 2B WATCHING 4APPEAR

G HAS DUN ALL THIS FOR HIMSELF SO HE MITE TABRACL,OR HAV A

HOME W/US DUZ HE HAV A HOME IN UR HART??

IS NOT MAKE ROOM FOR HIM TODAY

(Ilus famly setup camp)

WE HAV ONE SIMPL RULE..WEN WE GET TO TH/CAMPGROUND,
NOBODY GOES TO TH/BATHROOM UNTIL TH/CAMP IS SETUP

Ex 25:1-9

vs 2-

Sai bary=A CONSECRATD PLAC/THING:

ESPECIALY A PALACE OR SANCTURAY WHTHR OF

JEHOVAH OR ~~EXX~~ IDOLS

ASYLUM,CHAPEL,HALLOWD PLAC,HOLY PLAC

TABERNAKE:

A TENT

COVERING
RESIDENCE
HOME

Vs 7=DESIR OF ALL NATINS - MESSIAH

(Ilus wives who wer watching)

I HAV BIN WAITING FOR YOU

YES,BUT TH/OTHER MEN'S WIVS WER WATCHING 4THEM

VSS 4-7-1466K/ 2

Chap 40 tel detail Mos erec finish produc
8times=JUS AS TH/L HAD COMANDED MOSES

vss 33-38

2things hapn wen G sanctfy/dedicat

INSIDE:

* of Cov

box=ARK

Lid=MERCY SEAT

2gold angels & G dwelt undr ther wings

OUTSIDE

Vs 34-35

Ezek ~~11:22-23~~ saw 70men censors burn incens 2fals gof
25 men baks 2temp: worship sun god
womn weep 4 Tammuz Baby goddess

Ezek 11:22-23

G's Glory disapear

70yrs Baby captivty-return,rebild,but no Glory

Haggai 2:4-9

vs 7=Desir of Natins

"For Him: A Home"

Scripture: Exodus 29:42-46

(Ilus family setup camp in record time)

Th/peo Is. had movd out Egypt movin thru wildrnes & camp along w way

they probScum ver adept at setup camp & then brk camp & mov on
Mos bin sumon 2Mt. Sinai 2nd tim by G,G spok 2him tel him
wat He expec of peo

Ex 25:1-9=convrsatin w/G

G relats 2 Moses=Vs 8-READ

in Heb word=SANCTUARY=a consecratd thing/place,especly a palac
or sanctuary whthr of Jehovah or idols,or asylum;chapel;hallowd
plac; holy place

G ask His peo construc plac so He cud dwel w/them

Wen they 1st Bgan wildrnes jurny G was w/them as evidencd in
pillr of cloud & th/pillr of fire

Now,He wantd 2B w/them in way wh/wud reveal Him 2them much bettr

So G giv Mos specif instrucs concern bld of this Tabrnacl

Heb word 4-Tabrnacl=A tent,covring,residenc,home

thus G was tel Mos He desir 2hav a HOME among His peo

G gav instrucs 4burnt offr & it in 42nd vs our Scrip we read=READ

Th/Tent of Meeting is jus nothr term 4-Tabrnacl

G tels of meet w/them & spk w/them in Tabrnacl

Then G tels them=READ Vss 43-44

th/Tab was 2furnish/serv th/function of B meet plac tween G-peo

G sed this as read=VSS 45-46=READ

They wud kno thru this Tab who G was

Nex chaps Ex tel of constructin of Tab,& if U R curent in Ur
read thru of Bib 4 yr,U wil recal jus this pas wk U red of the
constructin of Tab

Sum of it tedius read,but in thiz details U can C ea part had

a mean & purpos 4wat G wud rerevel eventuly

40 Ap Ex tel us in detail of Mos erc th/finish produc

it tel detail how Mos did it or saw that it was dun

8dif times read in this chap=JUS AS TH/LORD HAD COMANDED MOSES

evrth was dun as G wantd it dun

end Vs 33=READ thru vs 38

ther R 2thing wh/hapn wen G sanctifyd or dedicatd Tab

1st=sumth hapn insid

ther was ~~xxxxxx~~ one pc furn in th/Holy of Holies

that was=Th/ARK OF TH/COVENANT - it squar box

th/box was Th/ARK & th/lid was Th/MERCY SEAT

on th/lid wer 2gold anals in bow positin & as bowd ther wings

sweep upward & met ovr th/MERCY SEAT

At th/tim of th/dedicatin G movd in2 th/Holy of Holys & dwelt ~~xxx~~

undr th/angls wings

th/Tab had no windows & th/Hi Pries had 2go in2 th/Holy of Holys

2minstr

How did he C? Ther was no flickring bil lamp in ther,jus a

dark room

But he abl 2C Bcuz th/Glory of th/Lord lit that room w/His 2/
presence

Think wat that exper mus hav ment 2th/pries who entr that H Plac

He knu he was in th/presenc of Almy G

G's lite transfigurd evrth in th/Tab

wat hapn 2th/bush wen G spok 2Mos? Wat hapn 2Mos wen spok w/G?

lite transfigurd th/bush & it transfigurd th/face of Mos

buty of th/Tab was not in its intricat work that man cud

produc w/tapestry & gold & wood

evrth was transformd by th/lite of G'd presenc & ther was th

buty of th/Tab

But sumth hapn outsid as wel=Vss 34-35

th/cloud actuly subdued G's glory,bcuz if peo had seen ful strng

they wud hav bin consumd 4no man can C G directly & liv

that is why thik veil was requird in Tab & Templ

it servd as means 2subdu th/compl lite of G

Latr,Sol bilt butiful/magnif Temp 2-G & G's glory was transferrd

2that Temp jus as it had bin in th/Tab

But G reveal 2Ezek wat had hapn dwn thru yrs & at one pt was tol

2dig hole in Templ wal

He did so & holwas on th/wal of th/Holy of Holys

G showd him th/desecratin wh/takn plac ther & he saw 7Omen

ea w/censr burn incens 2 fals gods

at th/northrn entranc 2 th/Templ was a grp of womn weep 4-Tammuz

th/Babylonian goddess;he also saw 25 men w/baks 2 Templ worship

sun god

4this,G had 2tak His Glory fr/His hous

Ezek 11:22-23-Ezek is say th/Glory of G went thru E gat of Templ

in Jeru

it thru E gat peo went in2 Kidron valy & Mt he tak bout is Mt

of Olives

G's glory hovrd ovr that mt & then was takn away,disapear en-

tly fr/Israel

it then Is. went in2 Babylonian captivity 4-70yrs

wen they return rebilt templ,but no read G's glory return

Haggai wrotchap 2:4-9=READ

in vs 7=Welth of Natins is bettr read as=Th/Desir of all Natins

as King James rendr it

this=Desir of All Natins is th/promisd Messiah

wat G is say is that one day,His glory wilB reveald agin in

that natin,not in a bush,nor in a mere humn lik Mos,not in a

Tab,nor a templ,but in a person

that persn speard once in th/worl,but ultmatly in histry He will

apear completly & fuly 2all mankind at tim of G's choozing

(Ilus wives who wer=WATCHING)

that at pt we R rt now-th/worl waitd as G reveald Self thru Tab,

thru men,thru Templ & thru Son Js Xp

But He takn His Glory away fr/worl & it only thru Js Xp we can

hav that Glory fr/G

His prom is that One day He wil return 2reveal His Glory 4all

"For Him: A Home"

Scripture: Exodus 29:42-46

(Illustration of family setting up camp in record time)

A family station wagon loaded to the hilt, pulled into the campground and parked on the only remaining campsite. The car came to a stop and six children jumped out and immediately began to unload the car and pitch the tent. When the tent was set up, the three boys ran off to gather firewood and the three girls set up the camp stove and the cooking utensils. In no time flat, they had everything set up with a fire going, and all prepared for their stay there. A nearby camper had watched all of this with great interest and he marveled at the organized system the parents must have worked out with the children. He spoke to the father and said, "That was a super display of teamwork." The father replied, "Well, we do have a special system. We have just traveled 150 miles from our home and we just have one simple rule, when we get here..... nobody goes to the bathroom until camp is set up."

The people of Israel had moved out of Egypt moving through the wilderness and camping along the way. They had probably become very adept at setting up camp and then breaking camp to move on. When Moses had been summoned to Mt. Sinai the second time by God, God spoke to him telling him what He expected of the people. We read in the 25th chapter of Exodus this conversation God had with Moses. Beginning at the first verse we read, (read verses 1-9). God relates to Moses, "And let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them," verse 8.

In Hebrew the word sanctuary means, "a consecrated thing or place, especially a palace or sanctuary (whether of Jehovah or idols), or asylum; a chapel, a hallowed part, holy place." God is asking that His people construct a place so He can dwell with them. When they first began their wilderness journey, God was with them as evidenced in the ~~xxx~~ pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire. Now, He wanted to be with them in a way which would reveal Him to them much better. So God gave Moses specific instructions concerning the building of this Tabernacle. The Hebrew word for Tabernacle means, "A tent, a covering, a residence, a home." Thus, God was telling Moses that He desired to have "A Home," among His people.

God gave the instructions for the burnt offering and it is in the 42 verse of our Scripture that we read, "It shall be a continual offering throughout your generations at the doorway of the tent of meeting before the Lord, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there."

"The tent of meeting" is just another term for Tabernacle. God tells of meeting with them and speaking with them in the Tabernacle. Then God tells them, "And I will meet with the sons of Israel, and it shall be consecrated by My glory. And I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar; I will also consecrate Aaron and his sons to minister as priests to Me. verses 43-44.

The Tabernacle was to serve the function of being a meeting place between God and His people.

God said this as we read, "And I will dwell among the sons of Israel and will be their God.

And they shall know that I am the Lord their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell among them; I am the Lord their God," verses 45-46.

They would know through this Tabernacle who God was.

The next chapters of Exodus tell of the construction of the Tabernacle and if you are current in your reading through of the Bible for the year, you will recall that just this past week you read of the construction of the Tabernacle. Some of it is tedious reading, but in those details you can see that each part had a definite meaning and purpose for what God would eventually reveal.

The 40th chapter of Exodus tells us in detail of Moses erecting the finished product. It tells in detail how Moses did it, or saw that it was done. Eight different times we read in the 40th chapter how Moses saw to it that something was done and Scripture tells us, "Just as the Lord had commanded Moses." Everything was done as God wanted it done. At the end of the 33rd verse we read, "Thus Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle, ~~xxxxxxx33B-35x~~ And throughout all their journeys whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the sons of Israel would set out; but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day when it was taken up. For throughout all their journeys, the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and there was fire in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel," verses 33B-38.

There are two things which happened when God sanctified, or dedicated the tabernacle.

First, something happened inside. There was one piece of furniture in the ~~Holy of Holies~~ Holy of Holies. That was the Ark of the Covenant. It was a square box. The box was the Ark, and the lid was the Mercy Seat. On the lid were two gold angels in a bowing position and as they bowed their wings swept upward and met over the Mercy Seat. At the time of the dedication, God moved into the Holy of Holies and dwelt under the angel's wings. The tabernacle had no windows and the high priest had to go into the Holy of Holies to minister. How did he see? There was no flickering oil lamp in there, just a dark room. But He was able to see because the Glory of God lit that room with His presence. Think of what that experience must have meant to the priest who entered that Holy Place. He knew that he was in the presence of God. God's light transfigured everything in the tabernacle. What happened to the bush when God spoke to Moses? What happened to Moses when he went in to speak with God? The light transfigured the bush, and it transfigured the face of Moses. The beauty of the tabernacle was not in the intricate work that man could produce with tapestry and gold, or wood. Everything was transformed by the light of God's presence and there was the beauty of the tabernacle.

But something also happened to the outside as well. Verses 34 and 35 tell us, (Read these). The cloud actually subdued God's glory because if the people had seen it full strength, they would have been consumed, for no man could see God directly and live. That is why a thick veil was required in the tabernacle. It served as a means to subdue the complete light of God. Later, Solomon built a beautiful and magnificent temple to God. God's glory ^{was transferred} ~~xxxx~~ to that temple just as it had been in the tabernacle. But ~~xxxxxglory~~ God revealed to Ezekiel the prophet what had taken place down through the years. At one point he was told to dig a hole in the temple wall. He did so and that hole in the wall was on the wall that entered the Holy of Holies. God showed him the desecration which had taken place in there. There were 70 ~~priests~~ men, each with a censor burning incense to false gods. At the northern entrance to the temple was a group of women weeping for Tammuz the Babylonian goddess; he also saw 25 men with their backs to the temple worshipping the sun god. For this, God was to take His glory from His house. Ezekiel tells in the 11th chapter of his prophecy in verses 22 and 23, "Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel ~~xxxx~~ hovered over them.. And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city, and stood over the mountain which is east of the city."

Ezekiel is saying that the glory of God went out through the East gate of the temple in Jerusalem. It was through the East Gate that people went into the Kidron Valley, and the mountain he is talking about is the Mount of Olives. God's glory hovered over that mountain, and then was taken away, disappearing entirely from Israel. It was then that Israel went into Babylonian captivity for 70 years. When they returned they rebuilt the temple but we do not read of the glory of God returning to that temple. Haggai the prophet then wrote in the 2nd chapter of his prophecy, in verses 4-9. In verse 7, that phrase, "Wealth of all nations," is better read as, "The Desire of all nations," as the King James renders it. This "Desire of all nations" is the promised Messiah. What God is saying is that one day, His glory will be revealed again in that nation, ~~in~~ not in a bush, nor in a ~~tabernacle~~ transfigured man like Moses, nor a tabernacle, nor in a temple, but in a person.

That person has appeared once to the world, but ultimately in history He will appear completely and fully to all mankind at a time of God's choosing.

(Illustration of wives waiting for their husbands coming home from fishing at sea)

After days at sea, the skipper of a Scotch fishing boat was bringing his boat toward shore. As the boat neared the shore the men could see people standing on the dock and they knew those people were the loved ones. The skipper looking through his glass, identified some of the women, saying, "I see Tom's Mary, Bill's Margaret, and so on." One man was very anxious because his wife was not there. He left the boat with a heavy heart and began to trudge up the hill to his home. There, ahead of him he saw a light in his cottage. As he opened the door, his wife ran to greet him, saying, "I have been waiting for you!" He replied, "Yes, but the other men's wives were watching for them."

That is the point we are at right now. The world waited as God revealed Himself through His Tabernacle, through men, through His temple, and through ~~His~~ Jesus Christ. But He has taken His glory away from the world and it is only through Jesus Christ that we can have that glory from God. But His promise is that He will one day return to reveal His glory for all the world to see. We are to be not only waiting, but to be watching for His coming. God has done all of this "For Him," For Himself, so that He might Tabernacle, ~~of~~ have ~~His~~ Home" with us. Does He have a home in your heart? If not, make room for Him today!

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor February 18, 1990
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Meron Hewis and Toni Jo Patsy

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests

*Processional Hymn No. 349 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*Ascription
*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) O Thou, whose tender mercies are over all thy works, humbly and sorrowfully we pray for thy forgiveness. For every weakening and defiling thought to which our minds have given harbor; for every word spoken hastily or in dark passion; for every failure in self-control; for every opportunity we have lost to do good; and for loitering feet and procrastinating wills, grant that as the days go by, thy Spirit may more and more rule in our hearts giving us victory over these and all other sinful ways. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Kyrle

*Assurance of Pardon

*Praise: Pastor - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Children's Moment

Hymn No. 479 "Fill Thou My Life, O Lord My God"

Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology - page 382

Anthem: "I Believe In A Hill Called Mount Calvary"

(organ and saxophone)

Scripture: Hebrews 1: 1-4

Sermon: "For Him: A Son"

*Invitational Hymn No. 345 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

*Closing Chimes

*Benediction

*Postlude

*Congregation Standing

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Bob Weisenstein in memory of Loved Ones. Mrs. Linda Patsy will greet our members and guests at the door this morning.

Ushering today will be done by some of the Youth Group.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Carol Pedersen.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Dick Mangel.

Attendance last Sunday was 120 with 9 visitors.

Bob Weisenstein and Daryl Merrison will be visiting the hospital this week.

Hospitalized: Gottlob Kradel and Esther Fair in BMH.

Guess what some of you missed on Wednesday evening here at the church. We won't tell, but maybe you can plan to be with us next year for the Valentine Dinner. Thanks to Chervyl & Donley Martin for a job well done.

> We need some help with the Sunday School program. If you would like to be a part of this, please see the office or Mrs. Marge Smiley. We need teachers and helpers. Let's do this "for the children." *VBS Also*

Remember to save your Campbells labels as well as old sheets or fabric that you don't need. The Mary Martha Circle is making bandages for the missionaries overseas. Get them to Ione Pflugh.

> Daily Bread booklets and the new Yearbooks are in the Narthex for you to pick up.

> Men....it is time for you to respond to the office if you would be going to the Moody Bible Institute Pastor's Conference. We would like to send in the reservations by next week. Please let us know!!!

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - JULY 27, 1997

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

AUG 10, - REV VERNON BORCHERT

AUG 16-17 - THE LORDSMEN

AUG 24 & 31, - REV VERNON BORCHERT

SPAGHETTI DINNER SEPT 13

SHIRLEY FAIRBANKS WEDDING AUG 9 - 3:00 PM.

SIGN-UP REFR.

POSTERS - PLEASE TAKE

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 1:1-4

SERMON: "FOR HIM: A SON"
ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 2/18/90

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

HENRY

MARTHA

BLAIR

CHARLETT

CAROL

SCRIP: HEB 1:1-4; SERM: "FOR HIM: A SON"

G ALWAYS DESIR REVEAL SELF 2MANK -HEB AUTHR BGIN SIMPL NAM ***

VS 1A=GOD, AND THEN COMMA - MEAN STOP - PAUSE-THINK WHO WRITE

VS 1B SPOK THRU CREATIN-THRU ABE & ABE SAW HIS GLORY- ABOUT

THRU BURN BUSH GLORY REVEAL 2MOSES-GLORY THUR TABR-LATER TEMPL

(ILUS JAMIESON, FAUCETT, BROWN EXPL THIS FR/COMMENTARY)

VS 2A=THEZ MEN INSPIR BY G & C SEP REV FINAL GLORY 2B REVEAL BY GOD

VS 2A=PRUF OF JS A HIS SON

THEN R LISTD SEVN THINGS BOUT THIS SON

BIBLICL COMMENTATOR JOHN MAC ARTHUR CALS THEM "7 EXCELENCIES"

VS 2B=HEIR=1ST BORN, ELDES SON 2B HEIR - JS IS BOTH HEIR OF FATHR

VS 2C=JN WROT=ALL THINGS WER MADE BY HIM & W/OUT HIM WAS NOT

ANYTHING MADE THAT WAS MADE

JS AT BGIN CREATIN W/GOD EXIST AS LNG AS GOD, NEVR TIME WEN JS

NOT IN EXISTENC

HE CUM IN FLESH=INCARNATIN-XMAS AS HUMN MANIFES OF G'REVEAL

GLORY COMPLETELY TO MAN

VS 3A="BRITNES HIS GLORY"-EZEK WRIT GLORY OF G DEPART FR/TEMPL

& PEOP. OF ISRAEL NEVR 2B SEEN AGIN

HAGGAI WRIT=GLORY OF G WUD ONE DAY RETURN & PROPH 2FOLD

SHORT RANGE PROPH & LNG RANGE PROPH

HE NO UNDRST THIS PROPH WUDNT B COMPLET FULFIL AT ONE TIME,

HE KNU & BLIEV G WUD DO THIS, & IT IN HIS HANDS

BIBLICL DIFICULTY=JS AS G'S GLORY = ISA 42:8 GOD DECLARED-----

I AM THE LORD, THAT IS MY NAME; I WILL NOT GIV MY GLORY 2ANOTHER

DID G DAY ONE THING, DO ANOTHER? DID HE CHANG HIS MIND??

" " "NO GIV GLORY 2ANOTHER, MEANS NO HAIS NOTHR 2HIS LEVEL

JS IS/WAS GOD & THER FOR HE TRULY REVEAL GLORY OF GOD

VS 3A=SAY/MEAN HE SHIN FORTH G'S GLORY IN LIF MAN AGIN=GLORY BAK

VS 3B=THIS JS, IS EXACT REVOF GOD'S NATURE

VS 3C=IS JS???

(ILUS C. S. LEWIS QUOTE FROM "HERE CHRISTIANITY")

GCAN.HUMAN FORM=JS G IN TH/FLESH=NO CUM 2NOTHR MAN LK ABE/MOSE

NO CUM THRU BURN BUSH TAB OR TEMPL - HE CAME PERSONLY

IN VS 3A=BRIGHTNES IN GRK HAS 2DO W/CHARACTR

CHARACTR WAT MAKES PERSN WHO HE IS & JS ESENC OF G'S CHARACTR

GRK CHARACTR IS TWO THINGS

1. IT IS A SEAL

2. MARK OR IMPRESIN OF TH/SEAL

SEAL/RING=PRES HOT WAX, MAK IMPRESIN, WAX HARDN SEAL IMPRES SEEN

JS IS TH/IMPRESIN OF TH/SEAL OF GOD - WEN EK HIM, C GOD

VS 3C=JS NOT ONLY IN ON CREATIN, BUT HOLD ALL 2GETHR

(ILUS JOHN MAC ARTHUR ON CREATIN BEING JUST RIGHT)

IT IS JS XP WHO SUSTAIN & MONITOR ALL THIS & MAINTAINS TH/BALANC

NECESSARY FOR OUT SURVIVAL

2/
VS 3D=WRITER MERLY SAY JS SACRIFICD SELF 2PURIFY MANK FR/STAIN
 CF SIN
 HE DID THIS BY DETH OF SELF ON CROSS
 THIS SACRIFIC G REQUIR 2JUSTIFY MANLIN HIS SIGHT
 WHY DID GOD DO THIS???

(OR HIMSELF - TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO MANK, SO MANK CUD CUM BAK
TO HIM)
 IT WAS THRU LOVE THAT GOD DID ALL THIS

VS 3E=LAST EXCELCY
 IN TEMPL & TAB PRIEST CUDNT SIT DOWN --- THER WAS NO SEAT
 HIS JOB 2SACRIFIC, SACRIFIC, SACRIFIC OVR & OVR AGIN
 JS XP OUR PRIEST SACRIFICD ONCE & THEN SAT DOWN
 ON TH/CROSS HE EXCLAIMED "IT IS FINISHED" TH/SACRIF BIN MADE
 WEN ASCEND TO HVN, HE SAT DOWN & THER HE IS AT RT HAND OF GOD,
 OR TH/SEAT OF AUTHORITY & POWER
 (ILUS MAN ASK JESUS HOW MUCH HE LOVED HIM)
 GOD REVEALED HIS GLORY TO MANKIND THRU JS XP
 (ILUS KING LOUIS XIV OF FRANCE & "ONLY GOD IS GREAT")

GOD SAYS:
"I AM THE LORD, THAT IS MY NAME, I WIL NOT GIV MY GLORY
TO ANOTHER" - ISAIAH 42:8

GOD'S GLORY IS REVEALED W/ HE WANTS IT REVEALED
HIS REVELATION OF THAT GLORY IS OURS THROUGH JS XP
GOD DID THIS FOR EACH OF US PERSONLY THRU CHRIST

God, Comma
 rest vs 1

Jamison/Fawcet/Brown quot:
 2 Noah, TH/QUARTER OF TH/WORL 2WHICH MESIAH SHUD BLONG WAS REVEALD:
 2AB TH/NATIN: 2JACOB TH/TRIB: 2DAV & ISA TH/FAMILY: 2MICAH TH/TOWN:
 2DAN TH/EXAC TIM: 2MAL TH/CUM OF TH/4RUNNR: THRU JONAH HIS BURIAL &
 2RECTIN * ETC.

Seven Excelencies as Jn MacArthur calls them

2B=HEIR *MADE BY HIM*
 2C=CREATOR - *JN: 1:3 ALL THINGS WERE MADE W/OUT HIM WAS NOTHING*
 3A=RADIANT of GLORY *MADE THAT WAS MADE.*
 Isa 42:8=I AM TH/LORD, THAT IS MY NAME: I WIL NOT GIV MY GLORY 2ANOTHER
 I AM TH/LORD=ADONAI - & that means only-GOD

3B=REPRESENTATIN

C.S. LEWIS quote: fr/Mere Christianity:
 A MAN WHO WAS MERLY AMMAN & SED TH/SORT OF THINGS JS SED WUDNT B A
 GRT MORAL TEACHER. HE'D EITHER B A LUNATIC ON TH/LEVL W/A MAN WHO SAYS
 HE'S A POACHD EGG - OR ELS HE'D B TH/DEVIL OF HELL. U MUS MAK UR
 CHOIC. EITHER THIS MAN WAS, & ES, TH/SON OF GOD, OR ELS A MADMAN OR
 SUMTHIN WORS

Radiant in Grk - Character
 SEAL
 IMPRESIN OF TH/SEAL

3C=UPHOLDS ALL
 JN MACARTHUR QUOT=Fr/Commentary on Hebrews:
 CONSIDR 4EXAMPL WAT INSTAN DESTRUCTIN WUD TAK PLAC IF TH/ERTHS ROTATIN
 SLOWD DWN JUS A LITL BIT. TH/SUN HAS A SURFAC TEMP OF 12,000 DEGREES
 FAHRENHEIT. IF IT WER ANY CLOSR WE WUD BURN UP: IF IT WER FARTHER AWAY
 WUD FREEZ. OUR GLOB IS TILTD ON AN EXAC ANGL OF 23DEGREES, PROVID-
 ING US W/FOUR SEASNS. IF IT WER NOT SO TILTD VAPORS FR/THE OCEANS
 WUD MOV NORTH & SOUTH & DEVELOP IN2 MONSTROUS CONTINENTS OF ICE.
 IF TH/MOON DID NOT RETAIN ITS EXAC DISTANC FR/THE EARTH TH/OCEAN TIDES
 WUD INUNDAT TH/LAND COMPLETELY TWIC A DAY. AFTR TH/FIRST FLUDING OF
 CORSE, TH/OTHERS WUDNT MATTR AS FAR AS WE R CONCERNED. IF TH/OCEAN
 FLORS WER MERLY A FEW FT DEEPR THAN THEY R, TH/CARBON DIOXID & OXYGEN
 BALANC OF TH/ERTHS ATMOSPHER WUDB COMPLETELY UPSET, & NO ANIML OR PLANT
 LIF CUD EXIS. IF TH/ATMOSPHER DID NOT RETAIN ITS PRESEN DENSITY, BUT
 THINND OUT EVN A LITL, MANY OF TH/METEORS WH/NOW HARMLESSLY BURNUP WEN
 THEY HIT TH/ATMOSPHER WUD CONSTANTLY BOMBARD US.

3D=Purificatin of sins
 3E=Sat down
 Unknown author wrot=I ASKD JS HOW MUCH HE LUVD ME.
 HE STRETCHD OUR HIS ARMS & SED -- THIS MUCH ---- AND DIED

"For Him: A Son"

Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-4

G has always wanted to reveal Self 2mank

Th/author of Hebs Bgin lettr w/simpl nam=GOD

this folo by coma wh/mean we R 2paus ther

that nam=G makes us stop/think whom it is we read bout

he then go cne 2writ=READ-rest vs 1

G ook thru creatin & reveal self thru it;

He spok 2-Ab & Ab saw His glory;

He reveal self in burn bush 2-Mos & thru that bush reveal His

Glory 2-Mos

Then, reveal glory thru Tab & latr thru templ-so wat authr say

heré is absolutly corec

But go on 2say G did this thru prophs in many portind, many ways

Listn how He did this=(Ilus Jamison/Fawcet/Brown com on Hebs)

ea thez men inspir by G 2C seprat rev of final glory 2B reveal

by G

Wen authr writ=IN THEZ LAS DAYS HAS SPCKN 2US IN HIS SON-he simpl;

say fr/tim wen wrot this up 2presen tim & until CH age ends w/2nd

return of Js Xp, G has spokn 2all Blievrs w/pruf of Js as G's Son

Then writr lists 7things bout this Son

Jn MacArthur in his comentary on Hebs call them=EXCELENCYS

1-vs 2B=heir - this logicl sinc Js declard=S of G

law of heirship/inheritanc is 4eldes son or 1stborn 2B heir

sinc Js was both, stan reason He is heir 2kingdm of G

All Fathr has is His

2-vs 2C=made world - this wat Apostl Jn say vs 3 chap 1-READ

Js was at very Bgin of creatin w/G mak & form all of creatin

Ther nevr was tim wen Js was not in existenc & His cum in2 worl

in flesh, wh/celbrat as Incarnatin/Xmas, was merly humn manifestat

of G reveal His Glory completly 2man

3-vs 3A=Radianc of Glory - Here hav wat cudB possibly conceiv as

) prob or difculty

ias wk red fr/Ezek & acct how glory of G was takn fr/templ &

th/peo of Is.

that glory was nevr seen agin & Hag wrot glory wud lday return

His proph 2fold=1st short rang proph, then lng rang proph

this mean he simply C sumth no completly undrstan, yet knu G wud

fulfil it sumtim

neithr did he undrstan his proph noB completly fulfil at ltim

All this in hands G & lik all prophs this wher he lef it

So it is we read this Scrip=HE IS TH/RADIANC OF G'S GLORY

& here wher dif aris Bcuz in Isa 42:8 - READ

did G mak mistak? Did He say that & latr chng His mind? Or did

He say one thing & do anothr?

G sed exactly wat He ment; He no say it here & then say/do sumth

latr on

Wen He sed=He is th/LORD, He say I AM ADONCY=& this means GOD

He emphasiz He wil not shar Glory w/anyone els & that mean He

no rais anyone 2 His level

He say ther is ONLY ONE G, & that is HIMSELF 2/

4-Exac Representatin= authr spel this out bout Js - vs 3B

Js is=Radianc His glory or shin 4th G's glory in2 ~~xxxxxxx~~ lif

of man agin

this Js, this radianc of G's glory is=Th/exac repr G's natur

Who was Js? Quest bin askd ovr & ovr agin

(Not by C.S. LEWIS fr/Here Xpianity)

J. Jn G in th/flesh

this tim G no send jus nothr man lik Ab/Mos 2reveal His glory

nor did reveal self thru specil sign lik burn bush; nor was He

seen in dwel plac lik Tab/Templ

this tim He cam in humn form-but He cam persnly

& go bak 2word=RADIANC, in Grk has mean wh/character

Character wat mak persn wat he is & in Grk character mean 2things

1st=it is SEAL, & 2nd=it is mark/impresin of th/seal

wen seal pres in2 hot wax it lef imprewin-wen hardn th/sign of

th seal cudB plainly seen

Js is th/impresin of th/seal=GOD

Wen U lk at Him-th/impresin, U C th/seal=GOD, so Js is G in flesh

5-vs 3C=Uphold all thins - authr say Js was in on creatin, but He

it is who holds it all 2gethr

(Quot Jn MacArthur fr/comentary on Hebs)

it is Js Xp who sustain & monitors all this & maintains th/balance

necessary 4our survivl

6-vs 3D=Purificatin of sins - writr merly say sacrif self 2purify

mank fr/sin

did this by deth of Self on cros

this sac requir by G 2justify man in His site

G Himself did that-it was For Him that He cam in2 worl 2B

recogniz as=A Son

w/this identy, man cud aproach G w/out fear of deth Bcuz 2lk at G

ment deth

G)mself made this posibl Bcuz His luv

7-vs 3E=Sat dwn - in Tab/Templ pries cud no sit dwn Bcuz no seat

his job was 2sac, sac, sac - ovr & ovr agin he sac

but Js as our priest sac once & then sat dwn

on cros exclaimd-IT IS FINISHD & wen He ascend in2 hvn-sat dwn

ther He is at Rt hand of G, or th/seat of authroty & powr

Unkno authr say=I ASKD JS HOW MUCH HE LUVD ME. HE STRETCHD OUT HIS

ARMS & SED = THIS MUCH ---- & DIED

G reveald glory once agin thru Js Xp 2mank

we kno that specil luv only thru Him

He invits ea us cum 2Him Bcuz that was His specil gift 2 th/wor

it was=FOR HIM: A SON

& it was 4us as we jus celbrat few mnths ago-4Unto us a Son givn

He did it 4us, 4 U & Me persnly

"For Him: A Son"

Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-4

God has always wanted to reveal Himself to mankind. The author of Hebrews begins his letter with the simple name "God." This is followed by a comma which means we are to pause there. That name "God" makes us stop and think of whom it is we are reading about. He then goes on to write, "After He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways," verse 1.

God spoke through Creation and revealed Himself through it; He spoke to Abraham and Abraham saw His Glory; He revealed Himself in the burning bush to Moses; and through that bush He revealed His Glory to Moses. Then, He revealed His glory through the Tabernacle and later in the temple. So what the author is saying~~ix~~ here is absolutely correct. But he goes on to say that God did ~~this~~ through the "prophets in many portions and many ways." Listen how He did this. The Biblical Commentators Jamieson, Fausett and Brown putlined in their commentary on Hebrews: To Noah, the quarter of the world to which Messiah should belong was revealed; to Abraham the nation; to Jacob the tribe; to David and Isaiah the family; to Micah the town; to Daniel, the exact time; To Malachi, the coming of the forerunner; through Jonah, His burial and resurrection, etc."

Each of these men was inspired by God to see a separate revelation of the final Glory to be revealed by God. When the author writes, "In these last days has spoken to us in His Son," he is simply saying that ~~w~~from the time when he wrote that up to this present time and until the church age is ended with the second return of Christ, God has spoken to all believers with the proof of Jesus Christ as God's Son. Then the writer lists seven things about this Son. John MacArthur calls them "seven excellencies."

The first is, "He was appointed heir of all things." This is logical since Jesus is declared "The Son of God," The law of heirship is for the eldest son, or the firstborn, to be the heir. Since Jesus was both, then it stands to reason that He is the heir to the kingdom of God. All that the Father has is His.

The second thing or excellency about Jesus is, "Through whom He also made the world," vs 2C. This is what the Apostle John is saying in the 3rd verse of the first chapter of his Gospel. He wrote, "All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." Jesus was at the very beginning ^{OF} the creation with God making and forming all of creation. There never was a time when Jesus was not in existence, and His coming into the world in the flesh which we celebrate as the Incarnation, Christmas, was merely the human manifestation of God revealing His Glory completely to man.

The next excellency of Jesus is, "And He is the radiance of His Glory," vs 3A. Here we have what could possibly be conceived as a Biblical problem, or difficulty. Last week we read from Ezekiel ~~and his account of how the Glory of God was taken from the temple and the people of Israel. That glory was never seen again. Haggai wrote that the Glory of God would one day return. His prophecy was twofold. It was first a short range prophecy and a long range prophecy. ~~ix~~ This means that he simply was seeing something that he did not completely understand, yet he knew that God would fulfill it sometime. Neither did he understand that his prophecy would not be completely fulfilled at one time. All of this was in the hands of God and like all prophets, that is where he left it.~~

So it is that we read in the letter of Hebrews that "He is the radiance of (God's) glory." Here is where the difficulty arises. In Isaiah, the 42nd chapter the 8th verse, God declared: "I am the Lord, that is My Name; I will not give My Glory to another." Now did God make a mistake? Did He say that and later change His mind? Or did He say one thing and do another? God said exactly what He meant. He didn't say it here and then say or do something else later on. When He said "He is the Lord," He is saying "I am ADONAI," This means God. And He is emphasizing that He will not share His glory with anyone else. That means He will not raise anyone to His level. He is saying there is only ONE GOD, and that is Himself. And the author of Hebrews spells this out about Jesus when he adds the next excellency ~~xxxx~~ where he states: "And the exact representation of His nature," vs 3B.

He says that Jesus is the "radiance of His glory," or the shining forth of God's Glory into the life of man again. And this Jesus, this radiance of God's Glory is "The exact representation of God's nature." Who was Jesus? That question has been asked over and over. It was C. S. Lewis who wrote: A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said wouldn't be a ~~good~~ great moral teacher. He'd either be a lunatic - on the level with a man who says he's a poached egg - or else He's be the devil of hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse."

From Mere Christianity

Jesus was God in the flesh. This time God didn't send just another man like Abraham or Moses to reveal His glory; nor did He reveal Himself through a special sign like a bush burning; nor ~~was~~ He seen in a dwelling place like the Tabernacle or the temple. This time He came in a human form, but He came personally. And going back to the meaning of the word "radiance," in Greek it has a meaning which ~~is~~ has to do with character. Character is what makes a person what he is. This is speaking of Jesus being the essence of God's character. And in Greek character means two things. First, it is a seal, and second it means the mark or the impression of the seal. When a seal was pressed into hot wax, it left an impression. When the wax hardened the sign of the seal is plainly seen. Jesus is the impression of the seal - God. When you look at Him, the impression, you see the seal - God. He is God in the flesh.

The next excellency of Jesus is, "Upholds all things by the word of His power," vs 3C. The author is saying here that Jesus not only was in on the creation, but it ~~is~~ He who holds it all together. John MacArthur writing about this says:

Consider for example what instant destruction would take place if the earth's rotation slowed down just a little. The sun has a surface temperature of 12,000 degrees Fahrenheit. If it were any closer to us we would burn up; if it were any farther away we would freeze. Our globe is tilted on an exact angle of 23 degrees, providing us with four seasons. If it were not so tilted, vapors from the oceans would move north and south and develop into monstrous continents of ice. If the moon did not retain its exact distance from the earth the ocean tides would inundate the land completely, twice a day. After the first flooding of course, the others wouldn't matter ~~far~~ as far as we would be concerned. If the ocean floors were merely a few feet deeper than they are, the carbon dioxide and oxygen balance of the earth's atmosphere would be completely upset, and no animal or plant life could exist. If the atmosphere did not remain at its present density, but thinned out even a little, many of the meteors which now harmlessly burn up when they hit the atmosphere would constantly bombard us.

It is Jesus Christ who sustains and monitors all of this and maintains the balances necessary for our survival.

The next excellency of Jesus is, "When He had made purification of sins." The writer is merely

vs. 3D

saying, that He sacrificed Himself to purify mankind from the stain of sin. He did this by the death of Himself upon the cross. This was the sacrifice that was required by God to justify man in His sight. God Himself did that. It was for Him, that He came into the world to be recognized as "A Son." With this identity, man could approach to God without fear of death because man had looked on God. God Himself made this possible because of His love. The last excellency the writer lists is, "He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on High," vs 3E.

In the Tabernacle and the temple, the priest couldn't sit down because there was no seat. His job was to sacrifice, sacrifice, sacrifice. Over and over again he sacrificed. But Jesus as our Priest sacrificed once and then sat down. On the cross He exclaimed, "It is Finished," and when He ascended into heaven He sat down. There He is at the right hand of God, or the seat of authority and power.

An unknown writer says: "I asked Jesus how much He loved me. He stretched out His arms and said, 'This much' --- and died."

God revealed His Glory to mankind once again through Jesus Christ. We can know that special love only through Him. He invites each of us to come to Him because that was His special gift to the world. It was "For Him: A Son." And it was for us as we just celebrated a few months ago, "For unto us a Son is given." He did it for us, you and me personally.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor February 25, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Toni Jo Patsy and Meron Hewis

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude "Prayer"
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 547 "The Church's One Foundation"

*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) Almighty and most merciful
Father; we have erred and strayed from Thy ways
like lost sheep. We have followed too much the
devices of our own hearts. We have offended
against Thy holy laws. We have left undone those
things which we ought to have done; and we have
done those things which we ought not to have done
and there is no health in us. We confess all of
this, knowing there is forgiveness in Thee,
which we ask now in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 446 "Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings "The Benediction of
*Doxology - page 382 Aaron"
Anthem: "What God Can Do"
Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-14
Sermon: "For Him: Believers"
*Invitational Hymn No. 128 "Face to Face"

*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude "Rejoice In The Lord!"

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The beautiful flowers on the Altar have been placed by
Mrs. Marge Smiley in memory of Loved Ones.
Mrs. Lois Stokes will greet our members and guests today.
Ushering today will be Dick Mangel, Dick Dally, Donley
Martin and Don Kingsley.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Margaret Emery.
Van Driver for Ash Wednesday will be Joe Youngblood.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Joe Youngblood.
Attendance last Sunday was 102 with 4 visitors.
Don Kingsley and Ben Vensel will be visiting the hospital
this week.
Hospitalized:

TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M. we will be holding a meeting to begin
plans for VBS this year. Mary Jane Weisenstein
has volunteered to be this year's Director. Any
one interested in helping or teaching, please
come join us.

WEDNESDAY - Ash Wednesday service will be held at 7:30 P.M.
We will be observing the Lord's Supper at the
altar rail.
- Choir will hold its rehearsal immediately
following the service.

EASTER EGGS - we have a couple more weeks left to get your
order in. Orders are due March 11th.
Please support our upcoming projects.

FISH FRY DINNERS - will be coming up quickly. March 14 &
28th. Flyers are posted on the bulletin
boards. We will also need help and donations
of pies. See Helen, Phyllis or Dick Mangel.
Please volunteer to help, we need you!!!!

World Day of Prayer will be observed March 2nd at 1:00 P.M.
at the North Street Christian Church with a service.
Immediately following the service a reception will be
held. This is sponsored by the Women's Commission of
the Butler Fellowship of Churches.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - AUGUST 3, 1997

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

VACATION - AUG 10, - REV. VERNON BORCHERT

AUG 16-17, THE LORDSMEN

AUG 24, 31, - REV. VERNON BORCHERT

WALK FOR CANCER JOANN FAIRMAN - SPONSORS - *MUST HAVE MONEY BY 1997*
AUG 23 & 24TH
SENECA HIGH SCHOOL

SHIRLEY FAIRBANKS/ROD KESSLER WEDDING
AUG 9 3:00PM
WED CLEANING CH - 6:30

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY *KIDS JEAN - HEATHER INC*

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: EPHESIANS 1:3-14

SERMON: "FOR HIM: BELIEVERS"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 2/25/90

*HYMN

*B. DICTION

*POSTLUDE

CHARLITE - RENAS

STEVE FAMILY GROUP

EMMA

UNPOKE - JEAN

WILA -

RALPH - HAT RENAS

SCRIP: EPH 1:3-14; SERMON: "FOR HIM: BELIEVERS"

(ILUS MAN ASK PASTOR PRAY HE GETS A NEW JOB)

WHY WUD PASTR WHO SUPOS PRAY NEEDS OF PEOPRUS PRAY 4HAPINES & PEAC OF MIND OF ONE HIS PARISHNERS

WAS HE WRONG RFUS PRAY AS MAN ASKED?? LET'S SEE!

GLORY OF G REVEAL THRU - CREATIN, ABE & COV, BURN BUSH, MOSES, B, TEMPL, & THRU JS XP

NOW G CHOS UNLIKLY INSTRUMEN THRU WH/REVEAL HIS GLORY-SINNES P WRIT EPH 2:19-22=HE SAY G NOW DO EXACLY WAT DID IN OLD TEST

TAB/TEMP PLACES WHER G DWELT & REVEAL GLORY BUT INSTED USE ANIML SKIN AS IN TAB, OR STONES AS IN TEMP - NOW LIV STONES

HE IS USING BLIEVR & THEY R JOIN 2GETHR 2B G'S DWEL PLACE

P SEZ COR. TH/BLIEVR IS TH/TEMPL OF GOD

SCRIP TEACH JS CAM 2REVEAL GLORY OF G & B EXAMPL 4US 2FOLLO

HOW CAN A BLIEVR GLORIFY GOD??

BY HIS VERY SALV TH/BLIEVR IS AN INSTRUMEN 2REVEAL G'S GLORY

WAT WER WE B4 WE WER SAVED??? --- LOST SINNES

WAT R WE WEN XP SAVES US???? --- SONS OF GOD, CHILDEN OF GOD

ROMANS 8:16-17 --- PAUL WRITES (BUT...

VS 3B=SPIRITUL BLESSINGS

2/

VS 4A=CHOSE US B4 FOUND OF WORLD = WE WER IN G'S PLAN WAY BAKWEN

VS 4B=WE R HOLY W/OUT BLAME B4 G THRU HIMSELF-(JS)

VS 5A=PREDESTINED US - CHOSE US B4WE KNU HIM 2B HIS SONS

WHT WUD GOD DO ALL THIS ?????

VS 6=G DID ALL THIS THRU XP HOLDING NUTH BAK & THIS WORK OF ~~XXI~~

ING US 2HIMSELF THRU SALVATIN WAS 2B 2HIS GLORY

HE DID IT "FOR HIM" - IT WAS 4HIMSELF THAT ALL MANK CUD CUM 2HIM

(ILUS DRUNKARD BEING MILINAIR & DYING BROKE)

THIS SAD STAT AFAIR 4MANY,MANY PEOP

LIV THIS LIF,GO THRU TRIALS/TRIBS OF LIV & DY POVRTY STRIKN

SPIRITULY BCUA NO LAY CLAIM 2SPIRITUL WELTH G HAS PROVID IN XP

WE MAY NO POSES MUCH WORLDS WELTH WHIL LIV THIS LIF,

BUT IF HAV XP AS L & SAV RICHR THAN WELTHY PEO LIV 2DAY

VS 7A=THIS WAT P PT OUT - WE WELTHY BYON COMPAR

VS 7B=FORGIVN/CLENSD TH/FREE GIFT GRACE THRU HIM

VS 8=ALL THIS SHOWERED UPON US

VS 9A=MYSTERY HIS WIL IS TH/REVEAL OF JX XP AS SAVIOR

VS 10=HIS PLAN BOTH IN HVN & EARTH

VS 11=ALL G HAS IS OURS THRU GRACE, G'S WIL,HIS PLAN

VS 12=P & JS DICIPS 1ST 2KNO JS AS SAV OF WORL

RECOGNIZ HIM AS MESSIAH & SAW IN THIS HE SHO 4TH GLORY OF GOD

BLIEVR CAN THUS SAY=GOD IS GREAT, GOD IS GOOD

VSS 13-14=ALL THAT G HAS DUN, THE

SON HAS DUN & ALL SON HAS DUN,

H SP HAS DUN

H SP IS^oSEALD IN2 OUR LIVS WEN

CUM 2XP & LIVS BCUM GLORY 2 GOD

HAV SEEN G WORK THRU AN. SKINS,

BUSH,TEMPL STONES ETC,2 SHOW GLORY

WHT G DESIR TAK US INDIVID & TRAN

M US

THRU XP WE R TRANSFORMD

IN N.T. WORD MEAN LIK CATRPIIL TURN

FR/COOON 2PRETTY BUTRFLY

THIS WAT G DUZ EA INDIVID FOR HIS

GLORY

(ILUS FARMR/WIFE & ELEVATOR)

THRU XP TRANS TAK PLAC LIK THAT

G TAK COMON ORD LIF JUS LIK US,

& CHNG THOZ LIVS 2HIS GLORY

LISTN HOW PAUL SUM ALL THIS UP-

VSS 13-14=(READ THESE)

VS 14B=THIS WAT EA BLIEVR IS 4HIM

NOW DO U KNO WHY PASTR NO PRAY

MAN GET DIF JOB????

BCUZ WE R 2SHO 4TH G'S GLORY

WHER WE HAPN 2B

WE MAYB TH/ONLY XPIAN IN SHOP OR

OFFIC & IT THER G WANT US REFLEC

HIS GLORY & LET OTHRS C HIM IN US

THIS SHUDE EVID OUR LIVS WHEREVR

WE R FELLOW HEIRS W/XP OF ALL THAT G HAS 2GIV US

THEN PAUL STATES: ROMANS 8:18 - (READ THIS)

ALL WE GO THRU IN THIS LIF IS LEAD ONWARD 2TH/GLORY WH/GOD WIL
ULTIMATLY SHAR WITH US IN ETRNTY

WE^oUS GO THRU AFLIC & PROBS OF THIS LIF,

NOT LIK JS WE SUFR THRU THEM

BUT AT TH/END THIS LIF IS ALL THAT G HAS PREP 4THOZ WHO R HIS

WAT TAKS SINNRS & MAKS THEM IN2SONS???

IT IS G'S SALV PROVIDED BY GRACE THRU TH/DETH OF JS XP

THIS WAT PAUL HAS OUTLIN OUR SCRIP 4THIS MORN

EPH 1:3=(READ AGAIN)

(Ilus man ask pastr 2pray get nothr job)

Eph 2:19-22 - READ

Wat wer we B4 we wer savd??? LOST SINNRS

Mat R we wen Js savs us??? SONS OF G, or CHILRN OF G

Rom 8:16-17

vs 18

Eph 1:3-5 = God

Why? vs 6

(Ilus drunkard dy povrty-strickn evn tho a millionaire)

Eph 1:7-8, 11 = JESUS

vs 12-P & discips 1st

vs 13-14=All G dun-S has dun

All S has dun - H Sp has dun

G tuk comon things - animl skins,stones,bush,

G taks us 2B instruments thru wh/we glorfy Him

this tak plac thru transformatin

(Expl NT Tranfromatin - lik cocoon/buttrfly)

(Ilus farmr elevator & transformatin)

U WAIT HERE.) M GOING TO GET UR MOTH & RUN HER THRU THAT THIN)

Now undrtan why pastr no pray man get nothr job???

"For Him: Believers"

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-14

(Ilus of man ask pastr 2pray he get nothr job)

Why wud a pastr who suposd 2pray 4 th/needs of his peo refus 2 pray 4 th/hapnes & peac of one his parishnrs???

Was he wrong in refus 2pray as th/amn had askd?? Let's C!!!!

Th 'lory of G was reveal thru=Creatin;it was reveal thru=Abraham;

it As reveal thru=burn bush;it was reveal thru Moses;thru Tab;

thru Templ;& thur Js Xp

Now G has chosn an unlikely instru thru wh/2reveal His glory & it

is sinnrs whom He transforms

P writ Eph 2:19-22=READ THEZ

He say G now do exacly wat did in OT

th/Tab & Temp wer plac in wh/G dwelt & reveal His Glory

but insted use animl skin as did in Tab,or stones as did Temp

He use nu typ bild materil - living stones

G is use Blievr & Blievr R being joind 2gethr 2B G's dwell place

Sevrl times lettrs 2 Cor. P stat Blievr is Temp of G

G's purp has alway bin 2-Glorfy self;2-reveal self 2mank so man

mite kno Him

We R taut Scrip Js cam 2reveal that Glory of G 2man & 2set an exampl 4us 2folo

So how can a Blievr Glorfy G????

Th/Blievr by his very salv is instrumen 2reveal G's glory

wat wer we B4 we wer savd??? LOST SINNRS

Wat R we wen Xp savs us??? Sons of G,or childrn of G if U prefir

Rom 8:16-17=READ

" " 18=READ

all we mus go thru this lif is lead onward 2th/glorfy wh/G wil

ult shar w/us in etrnty

we mus go thru th/afflictins,th/probs this lif & lik Js we suffr

() them

but at end this lif is all G has prep 4thoz who R His

Wat taks sinnrs & mks them in2 sons? It G's salv provid thru

Grace by deth Js Xp

this wat P outlin in Scrip this morn

vs 3=Bles us evry sp/blessing

vs 4=choz us B4 fndatin of worl

vs 4=made us holy/blamles B4 him

vs 5=presetin us 2adoptin as sons

& why wud G do all this? Vs 6 givs ansr=READ

G did all this thru Js Xp,hol nuth bak & this work of bring us

2self thru salv was 2B 2His glory

He did it=For Him-it was 4Himself that all mank mite cum 2Him

(Ilus drunkard dying & was milinair)

This sad stat affairs 4many,many peo;they liv this lif,they go

thru trials/tribs of liv & they dy spirituly povrty-strickn Bcuz

they do not lay claim 2th/spiritul welth G prov thru Js Xp

We may not poses much worlds welth whil liv this lif, but if 2/
 we hav Js Xp as L & Sav we R richr than any so cal-welthy peo
 this wat P pt out in vs 7=READ
 He pd th/pric 4 ea individ sinnr who has livd in past;thoz
 who R liv in presen;& all thoz who wil cum in th/futur
 In Him we hav=Vs 7B READ
 b'vn,clensd,th/free gift of GRACE thru Him
 vs 1=READ - our wisdm/insite
 vs 11=READ - hav inheritanc & this means all G has is ours by
 His gift-or GRACE,& no one is exclud who cums 2-G thru Xp
 vs 12=READ - P ' discips wer 1st knu Js as Sav of worl
 they recogniz as Prom Mesiah of G & saw in all this He sho 4th
 glory of G
 this bring any Blievr 2 pt wher can honesly say=in words of
 child's mealttime prayr-G is Grt,G is Good
 vss 13-14=READ-All G has dun,th/Son has dun,& all S has dun,
 th/H Sp has dun
 th/H Sp is seald in2 our livs wen we cum 2 Xp & our livs R then
 2bring glory 2 G
 we hav seen how G tuk comon things lik animl skins,a bush,temp
 stons & usd thez comon thing 2sho His glory
 but He desirs 2tak ea us individly & transform us sh we sho 4th
 His glory
 G desirs ~~us~~ 2use us as instrumens His glory thruout unend ages
 of etrnity
 that was th/exampl Js cam in2 th/worl 2sho,th/exampl that G
 reveald His glory thru Him,& Blievrs in turn R 2reflec that
 glory in this lif,Bcuz thru Him we hav bin transformd
 Th/word=Transform as fnd NT has mean of butiful chng B wrought
 in th/individ
 it lik ugly brwn coccon catrpillr mak & out cum buttrfly
 that transformatin G depic in His Word wh/tak plac evry Blievr
 at it all For Him 2sho 4th His glory & we reflec that glory
 Bcuz we R His
 (Ilus farmer,elevator & tranfromatin thot tuk place)
 thru Xp a transformatin lik that taks plac
 G taks comon ord lif,jus lik any us,& chngs thoz livs 2his Glory
 P sums up this way-listn=READ vss 13-14
 2-th/prais of His Glory is wat ea Blievr is-FOR HIM
 now ~~xxx~~ do U kno why pastr wudnt pray 4 man get dif job?
 it Bcuz we R 2sho 4th G's Glory wherevr haphn 2B
 we mayB only Xpian in stor/shop/offic
 but it ther G wants us 2reflec His Glory & let othrs C Him
 in us
 We can shar that Glory w/othrs,but only if it is eviden in
 our livs where r we R

"For Him: Believers"

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-14

(Illustration of man asking his pastor to pray he gets a new job)

A man came to his pastor and asked him to pray that the Lord would get him another job.

The pastor asked, "What's the matter? Don't you like your job?"

"Oh, yes," the man replied, "I like it very much. I'm well-satisfied with my job."

"Then, what's the trouble? Is it the pay?"

"Oh, no, they pay me very well."

"Then why do you want me to pray that you get another job?" the pastor asked.

The man replied, "Well, I'm the only Christian in the whole shop. I'm hungry for Christian fellowship and that's why I'm asking you to pray I get another job."

The pastor answered, "I'm sorry, I cannot do that. In fact, I'm going to pray you won't get another job."

Why would a pastor who is supposed to pray for the needs of his people refuse to pray for the happiness and peace of mind one of his parishioners? Was he wrong in refusing to pray as the man had asked? Let's see!

The glory of God was revealed through Creation, it was revealed through Abraham and the Covenant it was revealed through the burning bush, through Moses, through the Tabernacle, through the temple and through Jesus Christ. Now God has chosen an unlikely instrument through which to reveal His glory and it is sinners, whom He transforms. Paul writes in the 2nd chapter of Ephesians, verses 19 through 22, (read these). He is saying that God is now doing exactly what He did in the Old Testament. The Tabernacle and Temple were places in which God dwelt, and revealed His glory. But instead of using animal skins as He did for the Tabernacle, or stones as He did for the Temple, He is using a new type of ~~xxxxxxxx~~ building material, - living stones. God is using believers. Believers are being joined together to be God's dwelling place.

Several times in his letters to the Corinthians Paul states that the believer is the Temple of God. God's purpose has always been to glorify Himself; to reveal Himself to mankind so that man might know Him. We are taught in Scripture that Jesus came to reveal that glory of God to man, ^{AND} ~~to~~ to set an example for us to follow. So how can a Believer glorify God? The Believer by his very salvation is an instrument to reveal God's glory. What were we before we were saved? Lost sinners. What are we when Christ saves us? Sons of God or children of God if you prefer. In Romans 8:16-17 Paul writes, "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow-heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him."

We are fellow-heirs with Christ of all that God has to give us. And Paul goes on to state, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to glory that will be revealed to us," verse 18.

All that we must go through in this life is leading onward to the glory which God will ultimately share with us in eternity. We must go through the afflictions, the problems of this life and like Jesus, we suffer through them. But at the end of this life is all that God has prepared for those who are His.

What takes sinners and makes them into sons? It is God's salvation provided ~~through~~ by grace through the death of Jesus Christ. This is what Paul has outlined in our Scripture for this morning. He begins by telling what God the Father has done. In verse 3 he writes, "He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing."

In verse 4, he writes, "He ~~xxx~~ chose us in Him before the foundation of the world."

Also in verse 4, "He ~~has~~ made us holy and blameless before Him."

In verse 5, "He predestined us to adoption as sons."

And why would God do all of this? Verse 6, tells us, "To the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved."

God did all of this through Jesus Christ, holding nothing back and this work of bringing us to Himself through salvation was to be to His Glory. He did it, "For Him." It was "For Himself" that all of mankind might come to Him.

(Illustration of drunkard being a millionaire and dying broke)

A man who had been a drunkard on Chicago's Skid Row for many years came to a rescue mission one night. He heard the message, ate the meal, and went to bed. That was his last night on earth. He died poverty-stricken and friendless, never to see another day. What he did not know was that he had an inheritance of over four-million dollars waiting for him in England. The authorities had searched for him but were unable to find him because he had no address. Here was a man who had all the material wealth he could want, but he lived and died in poverty.

This is the sad state of affairs for many, many people. They live this life, they go through the trials and tribulations of living, and they die spiritually poverty-stricken because they do not lay claim to the spiritual wealth God has provided through Jesus Christ. We may not possess much of the world's wealth while we live this life. But if we have Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior we are richer than any of the so called "wealthy people" living today.

This is what Paul points out beginning with the 7th verse. "In Him we have redemption through His blood."

He paid the price for each individual sinner who has lived in the past, those who are living in the present and all those who will come along in the future.

In Him we have, "The forgiveness of our trespasses according to the riches of His grace," vs 7B Forgiven, cleansed, the free gift, or "Grace" of God through Him.

In verse 8, Paul says, "Which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight."

In the 11th verse we learn, "We have obtained an inheritance." This means that all that God has is ours by His gift, or "Grace" and no one is excluded who comes to God through Christ.

Then Paul points out in the 12th verse, "To the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ, should be to the praise of His glory."

It was Paul and the disciples who first knew Jesus as the Savior of the world. They recognized Him as the promised Messiah of God and they saw in all of this that He was showing forth the glory of God. This brings any believer to the point where he can honestly say in the words of the child's mealtime prayer, "God is Great, God is Good."

Then in verses 13 and 14, Paul says, (Read these verses). All that God has done, the Son has done, and all that the Son has done, the Holy Spirit has done. The Holy Spirit is sealed into our lives when we come to Christ and our lives are then to bring glory ~~xx~~ to God.

We have seen that God took common things like animal skins, a bush, temple stones, and used these common things to show His glory. But He desires to take ~~xxx~~ each of us individually, and transform us so that we show forth His glory. God desires to use us as instruments of His glory throughout the unending ages of eternity. That was the example Jesus came into the world to show, the example that God revealed His glory through Him, and "Believers" in turn are to reflect that glory in this life, because through Him we have been transformed.

The word "Transformed" as it is found in the New Testament has the meaning of a wonderful change being wrought in the individual. It is like the ugly brown cocoon in which a caterpillar envelops himself and then emerges sometime later as a beautiful butterfly. That is the transformation God depicts in His Word which takes place in the life of every believer. But it is all "For Him," to show forth His Glory and we reflect that glory because we are His.

(Illustration of farmer, son, and elevator "transforming")

This story is told of a generation ago when an old farmer brought his family to the big city for the first time. They had never seen buildings so tall or sights so impressive. The farmer dropped his wife off at a department store and took his son with him to the bank - which was the tallest of the buildings. As they walked into the lobby, they saw something else they had never seen before. Two steel doors opened. A rather large, elderly woman walked in and the doors closed behind her. The dial above the door swung to the right and then back to the left. The doors opened and a beautiful young lady came walking out. The farmer was amazed. He turned to his son and said, "You wait right here. I'm going to get your mother and run her through that thing."

Through Christ, a transformation like that takes place. God takes a common ordinary life, just like any of us, and He changes those lives to His glory. Paul sums it up this way, listen how he explains it: "In Him, (Jesus), you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation - having also believed, you were sealed in Him, (Jesus), with the Holy Spirit of promise, Who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His Glory," verses 13 & 14.

"To the praise of His Glory," is what each "Believer" is, "For Him." Now do you know why the man's pastor would not pray that the man get a different job? It was because we are to show forth God's glory wherever we happen to be. We may be the only Christian in an office, or in a shop. It is there that God wants us to reflect His glory and let others see Him in us. We can share that glory with others, but only if it is evident in our lives wherever we are.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor February 28, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 7:30 P.M.
ASH WEDNESDAY

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
*Proclamation Hymn No. 279 "Savior, Thy Dying Love"
*Ascription
*Call to Communion and Confession (Communion Folder)
*Prayer of Confession (Communion Folder)
*Assurance of Pardon
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Communion Hymn No. 268 "Jesus, Thy Blood and
Righteousness"
*Service of Holy Communion (Page 2 of Communion Folder)
The Lord's Supper (Ushers will direct you to the altar
rail)
Distribution of the Bread
Distribution of the Cup
*Prayer of Thanksgiving
Anthem: "For Those Tears I Died" Women's Chorus
Scripture: John 13: 1-17
Sermon: "He Left Us: A Task"
*Hymn No. 256 "The Old Rugged Cross"
*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
Mrs. Peg McClymonds will greet our members and guests at
the door this evening.
Paul Riemer, Ben Vensel, Art Snyder and Don Kingsley
will be serving Communion and Ushering as well.
Nursery will be provided

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Choir practice will follow the service this evening.
The Ushers will be distributing the Love Loaves to you.
You will pick them up on the way back to your seats
after you have received Communion. These are to be
returned to the church on Easter Sunday. Again this
year we will support the project of World Vision.
More details on this project will be forth coming.
A meeting of the "12" will be held on Sunday afternoon
at 2:00 P.M. This is a practice for the upcoming
Service.
COUNCIL meeting will be held March 7 at 7 P.M.
EASTER EGGS - Orders for Easter Eggs will be taken until
March 11th. Please turn in your ordering sheets and
any other orders you may have to Ginny by then.
FISH FRY DINNERS - will be held on March 14 and 28th.
Please check the posters on the bulletin boards to
check the time, price and menu. We will also be
asking for help as well as donations of pies. Please
volunteer and see Helen, Phyllis or Dick. Remember,
this is for the church!!! So help us out!!! We will
also be taking donations of cakes.
We will be taking new members into the church on Palm
Sunday, April 8th. If you or anyone you know may be
interested in joining, please see Rev. Link or let the
office know.

COMMUNION CARDS ARE IN PENS.
PLEASE SIGN & PLACE ON OFFER PLATES.
THIS IS RECORD OF YOUR COMMUNING.
IF VISITING PUT NAME OF CHURCH & ADDRESS
ON BACK & WE WILL SEND.
WELCOME ALL TO TAKE COMM.

(Ilus woodpeckr & lighthning strik tree)
LOOK WAT I DID!!

PRIDE/SELFISM in CH

VS 1=HE LOVED THEM TO THE END

VSS 4-10 - READ

WHO WUDB GREST AMONG U MUSTB A SERVANT

VS 7

PETR one extrem 2othr - Vss 8 & 9

Vs 10 - Sp aplicatin

~~xxxxxx~~

1 JN 1:9 - IF WE CONFES OUR SINS HE IS FAITHFUL & JUST 2-4GIV OUR
SINS & PLENS US FR/ALL UNRITUSNESS

(Ilus Phil Donahue & country preachr at mine disastr)

ABOUT A YR LATR HE SED IT HIT HIM

HE WROT HE WAS WITNESSING SUMTHIN CALLD INTEGRITY

HE WROT=TH/MAN WUDNT SHOWBIZ 4-JS

HE WUDNT SEL HIS SOUL 4-TV,NOT EVN 4 NATINAL TV

NOT EVN....PRAIS GOD....4 CBS

"He Left Us: A Task"

Scripture: John 13:1-17

(Ilus of woodpecker,dead tree,lightnin & LK WAT I DID)

Unfortunately,many Xpian R lik this

ther is 2day w/in th/Xpian Ch an emph on prid & wat bin termd-
SELFISM

hear of it,& U C it:movy star/TV star cum 2 Xp is parad TV
radio,Ch's & pridfully tel wat wer B4 & it emphasiz glittr/glan
Examl=Ch's comuntys brag they hav it,others dont

In Jn 13 Js mak clear=SELFISM has no plac in Xpianity

Js taut agin prid

main pt 2nite Scrip is brot out in wat He did & how He handed

this "TASK" on 2evry Blievr

It was on nite ~~xxxxxx~~ B4 His deth that Js taut sum of mos prof
things

Thez things He lef as His legacy 2us & ea wk we go 2 lk thez
dif things

it during Pasovr meal wh/kno as Las Suppr Js taut thez lessns

Wat tuk plac in one nite,we wil examin in nex 6wks

Apos Jn Bgin Scrip w/words vs 1=READ=HE LOVD THEM 2 THE END

Js minstry was one of luv in midst hatrd/opositin He facd

So we read=READ VSS 4-10

this was Thurs eve

Js & Discips wer prob hid out in Bethany & posibly travld bak
rds 2 Jerusalem

Thoz bak rds wer dusty/muddy & travlrd feet Bcam dusty/muddy

At entranc evry Jewish hom was watr pot (lrg) usd wash dirty fee

Th/one who did footwash was lowliest slav

as gest ariv th/slav wud wash feet,but wen Js & discipd ariv

ther no slavs 2wash feet

It wasnt 2 lng B4 this tim, Js had tol them he who wudB grst

of them shudB a Serv

that teach mus hav falln on deaf ears

aftr they all seatd,Js aros fr/tabl,pourd water fr/pitchr in2

basin & Bgan wash feet

Cn U imagin pain/regret this mus hav causd discips?

They shud hav bin wash ea others feet,& especly feet of Js

But we no dif than they wer

th/Ch is ful of peo who R stand on ther dignity wen shudB

kneel in fr of bros & sistrs

th/desir 4prominenc/importanc is deth 2hgmilty & sergic

wen we temptd 2think our prestig or digny th/nex tim we R

askd 2do sum lowly task,we need 2 lk at Js kneel as slav

washing th/dirty feet of sinful men

Th/converstain Js had w/Petr is th/lessn we can all lern from

Petr quest why Js wud wash his feet

he cudnt C that th/Mesiah wud stoop this low

2do so made him a serv & 2 th/Jews,th/Mesiah was 2nevr Bthat

But Js was try 2convey 2Petr & othrs that was precisly wat 2/

He was - A SERVANT

So Js sed 2 him - VS 7

He ment this was Bgin of servnthud & only aftr He had givn His
very lif 4mank wud Petr & othrs undrst this

So Petr as usul go fr/one extrem 2othr

fir is is=vs 8

the to=VS 9

It then Js givs tru mean of cum in2 th/worl

He tel Petr-VS 10

Js aply sp aplicatin 2this conversatin

He say wen persn clensd,redeemd he duznt need 2B redeemd agin

He cp 2persn travl in twoz days:in morn tak bath all ovr

go fr/plac 2plac & feet get dirty,no bathe agin,jus wash feet

So Js tel Petr U redeem by Me & U no need redemptin agin,jus 4giv
nes wen comit sin

Jn wrot bout this latr wen say-1 Jn 1:9

Litrly he say Js wil keep on clens us fr/sin

this sp wash of feet Js refer 2 in talk w/Petr

It then Js taks tim 2teach th/discips this truth by say=Vss 12-17
th/secret 2liv th/Xpian lif is the "TASK" Js lef us

We R 2B servs,notic He say=vs 16

(Ilus Phil Donahue & country preachr at mine disaster)

He was a servant

He knu his "TASK"

Do we kno wat that "TASK" is & wat it means 2B about it?

"He Left Us: A Task"

Scripture: John 13:1-17

(Illustration of Woodpecker and lightning striking the dead tree he pecked on)

A woodpecker was pecking on the trunk of a dead tree. Suddenly, lightning struck the tree and splintered it. The woodpecker flew away unharmed. Looking back to where the dead tree had stood, the proud bird exclaimed, "Look what I did!"

Unfortunately, many Christians are like this. There is today within the Christian church an emphasis on pride, and what has been termed "Selfism." You hear of it and you see it. If a movie star or famous person supposedly comes to the Lord, he or she is paraded around from church to church and from TV and radio shows to proudly tell what he or she was before meeting the Lord. This isn't wrong in itself, but it projects the image ~~of~~ to other people emphasizing the glamour and glitter and bragging about it. Churches in every community are in competition with other churches of the community in trying to sell themselves as being the biggest or the best and they have what the other churches do not have.

In this 13th chapter of John, Jesus makes it quite clear that "selfism" has no place in Christianity. Jesus taught against pride. The main point of our Scripture tonight is brought out in what He did and how He has handed this "Task" on to every believer.

It was on the night before His death, that Jesus taught some of the most profound things. These things "He Left Us" as His legacy to us. Each week we are going to look at these different things. It was during the Passover meal which we know as "The Last Supper," that Jesus taught these lessons. What took place in one night we will examine in the next six weeks.

The Apostle John begins this Scripture with the words of verse 1, "He loved them to the end." Jesus' ministry was one of love in the midst of the hatred and opposition He faced. So it is that we read, (Read verses 4 through 10). This was Thursday evening. Jesus and His disciples were probably hiding out in Bethany and had possibly traveled by back roads to get back to Jerusalem. Those back roads were dusty ^{or muddy} and traveling on them by foot, the traveler's feet became dirty, or muddy. At the entrance to every Jewish home was a large pot of water which was used wash dirty feet. The one who did the footwashing was the lowliest slave. As guests arrived, this slave would wash their feet. But when Jesus and His disciples arrived at the Upper Room, there were no servants to wash their feet. It wasn't too long before this time that Jesus had told His disciples that whoever wished to be great among them should be a servant. But evidently that saying had fallen on deaf ears. After they were all seated, Jesus arose from the table, poured water from the pitcher into the basin, took a towel and began to wash their feet. Can you imagine the pain, the regret this must have caused the disciples? They should have been washing each others feet, and especially the feet of Jesus. But we are no different today than they were. The church is full of people who are standing on their dignity when they should be kneeling in front of their brothers and sisters. The desire for prominence and importance is death to humility and service. When we are tempted to think of our prestige or dignity the next time we are asked to do some lowly task, we need to look at Jesus, kneeling as a slave and washing the dirt from the feet of sinful men.

The conversation Jesus had with Peter is the lesson we can all learn from. Peter questioned why Jesus would wash his feet. He could not see that the Messiah would stoop this low. To do so made Him a servant and to the Jews, the Messiah was to never be that. But Jesus was trying to convey to Peter and the others that that was precisely what He was - A servant. So He said to him, (Read verse 7). He meant that this was the beginning of His servanthood and only after He had given His very life for mankind would Peter and the others understand this.

So Peter as usual, goes from one extreme to the other. First it is, "You shall never wash my feet," verse 8,

to, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my head and my hands," verse 9.

It is then that Jesus gives the true meaning of His coming into the world. He tells Peter, (read verse 10). Jesus is applying the spiritual application to this conversation. He is saying that when a person has been cleansed, redeemed, he doesn't need to be redeemed again. He compares it to a person traveling in those days. In the morning the person would take a bath. He would travel from place to place during the day. In the process he gets his feet dusty or dirty, and when entering a house must have them washed. He doesn't need to take a bath again, just wash his feet. So Jesus is telling Peter, once you have been redeemed by Me, you do not need redemption again, you just need forgiveness when you commit a sin. John wrote ~~xxxx~~ this truth later when he said, "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," 1 John 1:9.

Literally he is saying Jesus will keep on cleansing us from sin. This is the spiritual washing of feet, Jesus is referring to in talking to Peter.

It is then that Jesus takes the time to teach the disciples this truth by saying, (Read verses 12-17). The secret to living the Christian life is the "Task" Jesus has left us. We are to be servants. Notice, He says, "A servant is not greater than his master; neither is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him," verse 16.

(Illustration of Phil Donohue and country preacher at mine disaster)

Phil Donohue, in his autobiography, tells of the time he was starting out as a young television reporter. He was sent to cover a mine disaster. It was late at night. Snow was on the ground and it was freezing cold. The rescue team was down in the mine shaft and worried, anxious friends and relatives were gathered at the entrance to the mine, waiting for some word of hope.

Someone began to sing, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Others joined in, and then still others. Then it was quiet. A minister stepped out of the crowd and said, "Let us pray." His prayer was very brief, but very moving. Donohue said it was so moving to him that he got goose bumps. But his camera was frozen up and he couldn't record it for TV. Finally, after working with the camera for a while he got it working. He went up to the minister and asked him to repeat the prayer. The minister said, "No." Donohue said, "I'm a TV reporter. I represent 260 stations. Millions of people will be able to see you and to hear your beautiful prayer." The minister answered, "No."

Donohue said, "Perhaps you don't understand. I'm not representing some local TV station. I'm with CBS. The whole nation will be able to see this." The old country preacher said, "No," turned his back and walked away.

Donohue was dumbfounded and furious. He couldn't understand it. But about a year later he said it hit him. He wrote that he was witnessing something called "integrity." He wrote, "The man wouldn't showbiz for Jesus. He wouldn't sell his soul for TV, not even for national TV, not even....praise God....for CBS."

He was a servant. He knew his "Task." Do we know what that "Task" is, and what it means to be about it?

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor March 4, 1990

Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist

Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music

Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist

Acolytes: Tommy Vensel and Mike Brinker

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

Joys

Prayer Requests

*Processional Hymn No. 16 "Tell Me the Old, Old Story"

*Ascription

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) O God, we confess that we are
reluctant to move into this lenten journey to
Jerusalem. The past appears pleasant in comparison
with the future unknown. We meet pressing human
need with fear and pain and inaction. In a chorus
with worshippers everywhere, we say, "We have fallen
short, we live in a state of brokenness and alienation.
We have sinned." O God, our Sustainer and Redeemer,
help us to discover the gifts of power, talent, and
energy which you give us, that we might bring healing
into a broken world. Forgive our sin, strengthen our
resolve, and renew us in your ever-vibrant spirit.

Amen.

*Kyrie

*Assurance of Pardon

*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God

People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Children's Moment

Hymn No. 440 "The Lord's Prayer"

Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You

People - And with Thy Spirit

Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Offering

Offertory "In The Garden"

*Doxology - page 382.

organ and sax

Anthem: "Hear Us O Father"

featuring Lloyd Link

Scripture: John 13:18-30

Sermon: "He Left Us: An Awareness"

*Invitational Hymn No. 274 "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed"

*Closing Chimes

*Benediction

*Postlude

***** *Congregation Standing *****

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by the
Richard Mangel family in memory of Uncle Jimmy Stewart.

Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Tedder will greet our members and guests
at the door this morning.

Serving as Ushers today are Marty Henry, John Snow, Jeff
Snyder and Walter Hollefreund.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Marie Henry.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Mike Roper.

Attendance last Sunday was 66 with 4 visitors.

Marge Smiley and Bonnie Gannon will be visiting the

hospital this week.

Hospitalized:

UPCOMING EVENTS TO REMEMBER:

> Wednesday - Council meeting at 7P.M.

> Next Sunday, March 11th all Easter Egg order forms are
due into Ginny Mangel.

> March 14 will be our first FISH FRY!!! We need lots of
help, donations of pies and cakes, and pray that it
will be a successful day. We will be serving lunch
as well as Dinners. Please check the fliers posted on
the Bulletin Boards. If you can help, please see
Dick, Helen or Phyllis. We need YOU!!! So come out
and support our efforts. We are serving FRESH fish!!!

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

(Ilus Rokwel paint - womn/butchr & thnksgrv turky)

vs 18 - quot Ps 41 - Dav/Absalom/Ahithophel

vs 19

vs 23-24

(pl seating arngment)

vs 27

vs 30

Feb 6:6

anymus writr:

STIL AS OBEOLD, BY HIMSELF IS PRICED.

FOR THIRTY PIECES JUDAS SOLD HIMSELF, NOT CHRIST.

(Ilus fathr & solutin of 2much TV for famly)

AS SOON AS TH/BASBAL SEASN IS OVR,I'M GOING TO PUL TH/PLUG

(Ilus of Hymns & Heart)

we sing "SWEET HR OF PRAYR & R CONTEN W/5-10 MIN A DAY

we sing "ONWAR XPIAN SOLDERS" & WAIT 2B DRAFTD IN2 HIS SERVIC

we sing "O 4 A THOUSAN TONGUES 2SING" & DONT USE ONE WE HAV

we sing "THER SHALB SHOWRS OF BLESING" BUT DO NOT CUM WEN IT RAINS

& MITE ADD-OR SNOWS OR IS ANY KIND OF BAD WETHR

we sing "BLEST B TH/TY THAT BINDS" & LET LEAS LITL OFENS SEVR IT

we sing "SER TH/L W/GLADNES" & GRIP BCUT ALL WE HAV 2DO

we sing "I LUV 2TEL TH/STORY" & NEVR MENTIN IT AT ALL

we sing "WE'RE MARCHING 2ZION" BUT FAIL 2MARCH 2WORSH OR CH/SKUL

we sing "CAST THY BURDN UPN TH/L" & WORY SELVS IN2 NERVUS BRKDN

we sing "2TH/WHOL WID WORL 4 JS" & NEVR INVIT OUR NEX DOR NEIGHBR

we sing "O DAY OF RES & GLADNES" & WEAR SELVS OUT TRAVL,CUT GRAS, OR

PLAY GOLF ON SUNDY

we sing "THRO CUT TH/LIFLIN" & CONTENT SELVS W/THRO OUT FISH LINE

Do things lik this giv us An Awarnes & can say=I'M NOT ALL SHUD???

I DONT DO AS MUCH 4 TH/L AS I SHUD???

hav optrtnty 2 renew livs/renew comit 2Him in luv/servic

"He Left Us: An Awareness"

Scripture: John 13:18-30

(Ilus Rokwel painting womn/butchr & thnksgrv turky)

This scen cud wel describ th/scen tak plac this Scrip fr Jn 13

th/discips R ther w/Js Bgin 2undrstan this cudB las meal wud

shar w/Js

them it tim of felship/shar of this specil tim

Judas it short step fr/wat plot 2tak plac agin Js

2Js it moment of truth wh/He duznt completly spel out 2discip

on th/surfac evrth seems on up & up

Js jus finishd humbl task of wash feet & now He involv in discus

w/ther evens wh/wud tak plac in near futur

He tel them=Vs 18-this direc quot fr/Psalm 41

Dav wrot Ps at tim Abs defec fr/kingdm;Dav's trustd frend

Ahithophel,one of rt han men,who ate at tabl had desrt him &

joind up w/Abs

Ironcly,Ahith wen saw Abs defeatd & involv in lost caus,went

out and handd self jus as Judas did of whom Js is talk bout

Js had 2expl 2discips wat go 2tak plac Bcuz had He bin Btrayd,

arestd,executd w/out thm undrstan sum thez events,discips may

hav concludd, Js not all He claimd 2B

So He expl=Vs 19

this causd stir among them & Jn giv expl of conversatin tween

self & Petr - Vs 23-24

In ordr undrstan this need 2construc th/scen

Usul mode din thozdays was reclin on cushins rnd low U shap tabl

End of "U" servs pickup,serv platrs,but ther nun at Las Suppr

They reclin on lef elbow & eat Rt hand-(lvs out lefhand peo)

Start at obe sid-1st Jn,then Js:this expl how Jn cud lean on Js

brest,caus in reclin wud do so

seat acrs tabl at enhr end of "U" was Petr & sinc ovr ther,cud

not hear wat Js say

Reclin of Js lef was Judas & this ironic caus persn seat 2left

of gest of honor had plac of highes honor,reserv 4intimat frend

in all liklhud,Js made this arngmen Himself so cud hav privat

talk w/Judas

We no privileg 2convsatin,but Js had chanc sho Judas His luv

& giv optrtnty 2chnng mind bout wat he was doing

Petr ask Jn 2find out who Btrayr was,& Jn ask Js & He ansr th/one

He gav fud to

this agin reservd 4specil intimat frend & nun discips thot anyth

of it Bcuz it cumstomary

But Js kno Judas mind madeup,& knu cudnt chng it sed=Wat U do,

Do quikly -vs 27

Any discips who may herd remark had no inkling wat Js refer 2

If herd it prob Bliev as Jn wrot,Js giv instrucs 2Judas bout

mony fr/treasury wh/Judas tresurer of

vs 30=It not only dark outsid,but Judas went out in2 darknes

this nothr ironic statmen Bcuz wen anyone go out fr/presenc Js

Xp it is always nite

2/

The R always Judas's, evn in th/Ch
thez R pec who R profes 2B Xpians & who actuly sel Him out &
crucfy Him anew
Hebs 6:6 we read this
Ther R many who hav eatn His tabl & then turn heel agin Him
but wat realy hapn 2peco lik Judas is that they actuly R sell
selves out insted
anymus writr:
Stil as of old, By himself is priced.
For thirty pcs Judas sold Himself, not Christ.
Th/pt that we R lef w/fr this lessn is=An Awarnes
that awarnes is that we mus evrB vigilan & alert 2th/fac that
we or othrs can easly Bcum hypocrits & this wat Judas was
He playd gam wel; he knu rt words 2say, rt thing 2do
he had all disciphs foold, but he no fool Js & neithr can we
(Ilus fathr & solutin 2 too much TV for famly)
Ther is 1st clas hypocrit
no matt'r wat circums Js cal's us 2serv Him w/complet loylty &
alegiance
it isnt fair weathr comitment - it a comitmen in all seasns,
in all kinds circums
watevr th/motivs Judas may hav had 4do wat did, they wernt reflecti
of his imag wh/profec as walk w/Js 4 - 3yrs
our luv. our loylty, is 2remain constan no matt'r wat
sumone wrot bout hymns we sing in Ch - listn 2list & C if
perhaps we may C selvs in one of them
(Ilus sing hymns & then actin takn)
Do things lik this giv us An Awarnes that ea us can honesly say
I'M NOT ALL I SHUD?
I DON'T DO AS MUCH FOR THE LORD AS I SHUD
We can all say this no matt'r who we R
Th/ legacy Js lef us that we wil continu 2lk at is that we can C
selvs in dif lite as lk this las nite Js life B4 He crucfy
we will al C selvs as we R if hones
Nun or us R perf & we hav oprtunt'y 2renu livs & renew comitmen
2Him in luv & servic
this is invitatin He exten 2us as we Bgin our Lentn jurny
Wil U join me in that renewal?
acpt that invitatin 2day!!!!

"He Left Us: An Awareness"

Scripture: John 13:18-30

(Illustration of Norman Rockwell painting of butcher and woman buying Thanksgiving turkey)

Some years ago, Norman Rockwell painted a picture of a woman buying a Thanksgiving turkey. The turkey was on the scales and the butcher was standing behind the counter. The woman was a lady about sixty, and she stood on the other side of the counter watching the weigh-in. Each had a pleased look on their faces and all appeared to be normal. But on closer inspection Rockwell had painted their hands very distinctly. The butcher is pressing down on the scales with his thumb while the woman is pushing up on the scales with a finger.

This scene could well describe the scene taking place in this Scripture from this 13th chapter of John. The disciples are there with Jesus beginning to understand that this would be the last meal they would share with Jesus. To them it is a time of fellowship and sharing this special time with Jesus. To Judas, it is a short step from what he has plotted to take place against Jesus. To Jesus it is a moment of truth which He doesn't completely spell out to His disciples. On the surface everything seems on the up and up.

Jesus had just finished the humble task of washing the feet of His disciples. Now He was involved in discussing with them the events which would take place in the near future. He tells them, "I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but it is that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats my bread has lifted up his heel against me.'" verse 18.

Jesus is quoting directly from the 41st Psalm. David wrote this Psalm at the time of Absalom's defection from the kingdom. David's trusted friend Ahithophel, one of his right hand men who ate at his table had deserted him and joined forces with Absalom. And ironically, Ahithophel, when he saw the cause of Absalom taking over David's throne was lost, went out and hung himself just as Judas did of whom Jesus is talking about.

Jesus had to explain to His disciples what was going to take place because had He been betrayed, arrested, and executed without them having some understanding of these events the disciples may have concluded that Jesus was not all He had claimed to be. So He explains, "From now on I am telling you before it comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am He." verse 19.

Then He makes the startling announcement as we read in verse 21, "Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me."

This caused a stir among them and John gives an explanation of a conversation between himself and Peter. (Read verses 23 & 24). In order to understand this we need to construct the ~~xxxx~~ scene. The usual mode of dining in those days was to recline on cushions around a low table. They reclined around the table which was in a "U" shape. At the open end of the "U" servants could pick up dishes and empty platters and replace them with others. There were no servants doing this at the Last Supper but they were seated around a table in a "U" shape. They reclined on their left elbow which permitted them to feed themselves with their right hands. So much for those who were lefthanded. The seating arrangement was as follows: starting at the one side of the table at the open end of the "U", John was the first at the table and Jesus was seated at his left. This meant that when we read "he reclined on Jesus' breast," we are being told that was the natural position for him to be in and he could hear the conversation Jesus was having. Seated across the table from him at the other end of the "U" was Peter. Since Peter was on the other side of the table he couldn't hear what Jesus was saying.

We shall see shortly that the conversation Jesus had was not meant for all of them at that point. Reclining next to Jesus was Judas. This is ironic because the one seated on the left of the guest of honor was in the place of highest honor which was reserved for the most intimate friend. In all likelihood, Jesus made this arrangement Himself so He could speak privately with Judas. We are not privileged to much conversation here, but Jesus had the opportunity to show Judas His love and seek to get him to change his mind about what he was resolved to do. John, asked by Peter to find out who the betrayer was, inquired of Jesus and His answer was ~~xxx~~ that the one to whom He gave a select morsel of food. This again, was a special act reserved for an honored intimate friend. Thus when Jesus gave this morsel to Judas, none of the disciples other than John, knew what was actually taking place. Jesus, knowing that Judas' mind was made up and He couldn't get him to change it, said to him, "What you do, do quickly." Any of the disciples who may have heard this remark had no inkling what Jesus was referring to. If they heard it they probably believed as John writes that Jesus was giving Judas instructions about money from their small treasury of which Judas was the treasurer. Then John writes: "And so after receiving the morsel he went out immediately; and it was night," verse 30. It was not only dark outside, but Judas went out into darkness. This is also an ironic statement because when anyone goes out of the presence of Jesus Christ it is always night. There are always Judas's even in the church. These are people who are professing to be Christians and who actually are selling Him out and crucifying Him anew. The author of Hebrews writes in the 6th chapter, the 6th verse, of these people, "They again crucify to themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame."

There are many who have eaten at His table and then turned their heel against Him. But what really happens to people like Judas, is that they ~~xxxx~~ do not sell Jesus out, they sell themselves. An anonymous writer penned these few short lines:

Still as of old,
By himself is priced.
For thirty pieces Judas sold
Himself, not Christ.

The point that we are left with from this lesson is "An Awareness." That Awareness is that we must ever be vigilant and alert to the fact that we or others can easily become hypocrites. That is what Judas was. He was an imposter. He played the game well. He knew the right things to do and probably the right things to say. He had all the disciples fooled, but he couldn't fool Jesus. Neither can we.

(Illustration of father and his solution to the TV problem at home)

A father complained about the amount of time his family spent watching TV. His children watched cartoons and neglected their schoolwork. His wife watched the soap operas and neglected the housework. Do you know what his solution was? He said, "As soon as the baseball season is over, I'm going to pull the plug."

There is a first class hypocrite. No matter what the circumstances, Jesus calls us to serve Him with complete loyalty and allegiance. It isn't a fair-weather commitment. It is a commitment in all seasons, in all kinds of circumstances. Whatever the motives Judas may have had for doing what he did they weren't a reflection of his image which he projected as he walked with Jesus for 3 years. Our love, our loyalty is to remain constant no matter what. Someone wrote about some of the hymns we sing in church. Listen to the list and see

if perhaps we may see ourselves in one of them.

(Illustration of Hymns and Heart)

We sing "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and are content with 5-10 minutes a day.
We sing "Onward Christian Soldiers" and wait to be drafted into His service.
We sing "O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing" and don't use the one we have.
We sing "There Shall Be Showers Of Blessing" but do not come when it rains, and we could add, "or snows, or is any kind of bad weather."
We sing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" and let the least little offense sever it.
We sing "Serve The Lord With Gladness" and gripe about all we have to do.
We sing "I Love To Tell The Story" and never mention it at all.
We sing "We're Marching To Zion" but fail to march to worship or church school.
We sing "Cast Thy Burden On The Lord" and worry ourselves into a nervous breakdown.
We sing "The Whole Wide World For Jesus" and never invite our next door neighbor.
We sing "O Day Of Rest And Gladness" and wear ourselves out traveling, cutting the grass, or playing golf on Sunday.
We sing "Throw Out The Lifeline" and content ourselves with throwing out a fishing line.

Do things like this give us "An Awareness" that each of us can honestly say "I'm not all I should be?" And, "I don't do as much for the Lord as I should?" We can all say this no matter who we are. The legacy that Jesus left us that we will continue to look at, is that we can see ourselves in a different light looking at this last night of Jesus' earthly life before He was crucified. We will all see ourselves as we are if we are honest. None of us are perfect and we have the opportunity to renew our lives and renew our commitment to Him in love and service. This is the invitation He extends to us as we begin our Lenten journey. Will you join me in that renewal? Accept that invitation today!

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor March 11, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Tommy Vensel and Mike Brinker
* * * * *
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 263 "There Is a Fountain Filled
with Blood"

*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) O God, you know how we are
exposed to the world's temptations, but you also
know that we would like to be righteous. Grant us
the strength to follow our Master down the road of
discipleship, even though we know we shall surely
meet the cross at the end of that road. Forgive us
for all sin that prevents us from following Him
rightly, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 51 "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "What God Can Do / This Is My Father's World"
Scripture: John 13: 31-38
Sermon: He Left Us: A Stigma"
*Invitational Hymn No. 84 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

*Choral Benediction (Congregation please join us)
*Benediction
*Postlude
* * * * * *Congregation Standing * * * * *
The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mrs. Kitty Feder in memory of Wally.
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Crawford will greet our members and
friends at the door this morning.
Ushering today are Sandy Sheppeck, Erla Hollefreund,
Isabel Eichhorn and Helen Crouse.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Barb Andrews.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Marty Henry.
Attendance last Sunday was 122 with 9 visitors.
Dick Mangel and Bill Snyder will be visiting the hospital
this week.
Hospitalized: - - - - -
ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK:
Tuesday - 7 P.M. Sunday School Teachers meeting
6:30 P.M. Set up of the hall for our
Fish Dinner. We need help!
Wednesday - Fish Fry Day!!! Don't forget your cakes
and pies and that you promised to help.
See the bulletin board for times. See you
there. Bring a friend or two, or three...
EASTER EGG orders are due in today. Please see Ginny.
Easter Lillies may be ordered now. Price is \$5.50 each.
Please drop a note in the offering plate or see Ginny.
LOVE LOAVES are available in the Narthex. This is our
World Vision project for 1990. This year it will go
into a Child Immunization Project in 7 countries of
Africa. They are to be returned on Easter Sunday. - - -
SHALOM TO YOU
Shalom to you now, shalom my friends,
May God's full mercies bless you my friends,
In all your living, and through your loving,
Christ be your Shalom, Christ be your Shalom.
- - - - -
At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

Community Bible Church - Sagamore, Pa. March 15, 1992

Prelude

Announcements/Greetings/Prayer Requests

Description

Call to Worship:

O GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD, CALL ON HIS NAME, MAKE KNOWN
HIS DEEDS AMONG THE PEOPLES!
SING TO HIM: SING PRAISES UNTO HIM, TELL OF HIS WONDERFUL
WORKS.
GLORY IN HIS HOLY NAME: LET THE HEARTS OF THOSE WHO SEEK THE
LORD REJOICE!

*Hymn

Offering/Prayer

*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn

Scripture: John 13:31-38

Sermon: "He Left Us: A Stigma" - St. Paul's Butler 3/11-90

*Hymn

*Benediction

*Postlude

TOM - STRIKE
WALTER - CANTOR
BOB
TST

(Ilus fr/EPISTL 2 DICGNETUS)

(Ilus girl wedding - cros - & No Xpian, no church)

(Ilus womn buy cros - ONE W/FIGUR LITL MAN ON IT)

Js lef eithr=Stigma as Bles or Curse

r 34-35=First of marks

Cyniel Philosopr wrot

SCRATCH A XPIAN & U WIL FIND A PAGAN

Js & Petr vss 36-38=Loylty

Js sed=IN TH/WORL U SHAL TRIB,BUT I HAV OVRUM TH/WORL

vs 31A - Js reliev'd

vss 31B-32 - Seek G's Glory

(Ilus bumper stikr say=IF U LUV JS,HONK UR HORN)

(Ilus God Counted crosses)

I COUNTED DOLLARS WHILE GOD COUNTED CROSSES

I COUNTED GAINS WHILE HE COUNTD LOSSES

I COUNTS MY WORTH BY TH/THINGS GAIN'D IN STOR

BUT HE SIZED ME UP BY TH/SCARS THAT I BORE

I COVETED HONORS & SOT FOR DEGREES

HE WEPT AS HE COUNTD TH/HOURS ON MY KNEES

& I NEVR KNU 'TIL ONE DAY AT A GRAV,

HOW VAIN R THOZ THINGS THAT WE SPEND LIF TO SAVE

R His marks evid upon our livs ea day??

How is our loylty 2 Him expressd??

Do othr hear of Him fr/our lips??

Duz wat we do honor & glorfy our Sav??

Is th/cross jus pc prety jewlry & nuth mor??

L Ld fr.vain pleasurs of worl 2liv 4Him

P we wil 2 acpt that STIGMA is ques mus ea ansr

"He Left Us: A Stigma"

Scripture: John 13:31-38
 (Ilus Wat Xpians R, takn fr=A New Eusebius - pgs 58-59)
 this extrac fr/anonymus Xpian writ in 100's or 2nd centry
 Can U C th/odd bunch wh/thez Xpians wer?
 they had stigma atach 2them wh/imediately set them apart fr/worl
 & society
 t) emblem wh/considr 2B insturment of disgarc was=Th/Cross
 That cross so comon it worn by anyone includ pagns,atheists
 (Ilus girl wear cros at weding & no Xpian or go 2 Church)
 that story indicativ our socity 2day & remind story woman & cross
 (Ilus womn want buy cros & jewlr ask if want one w/smml man on it
 Wat Js Lef U is eithr stigma or blessing
 ther wer cert n marks Js placd upon all tru Blievr
 thez marks as seen by worl portray wat Xpian is as oposd 2 un-
 Blievr & pagns of socity
 In Scrip we read of lst of thez marks=Jn 13:34-35
 that expec tremendous amt luv fr/Blievr
 think wat Ch wudB lik if evr membr practicd that luv
 but that is not th/ Ch wh/worl sees
 we hav factins/grps/cloues/splits & peo gossip/bakbite & th/worl
 lks & C's littl luv
 is it any wonder worl & much of it C's no need 4 th/Ch of Js Xp
 Th/luv Js talk bout here is costly
 How did He luc us? He luvd us 2 th/extrem that He gav His very
 lif's blud 4us
 tru luv alway costs dearly & it nevr cums cheap
 An anonymus cynicl philosofr remark=SCRATCH A XPAIN & U WIL FIND
 A PAGAN
 was he rite?
 if ea us who Blong 2 th/Ch as folers of Js Xp wer 2liv th/exam
 He set B4 us that saying wud cum out=SCRATCH A XPAIN & U WIL
 ND A XPAIN
 nothr mark of Xpian is Loylty
 Js was spk 2discips & try 2expl wat go 2tak plac so wud kno wat
 hpn wen it did
 So say He go away wher they cud not go
 Petr ask wher R U go?
 Js ansr - vs 36
 Petr ansr - vs 37
 & Js say - vs 38
 altho Petr do exacly as Js sed,wat Petr was expres/exhibit,
 was tru loylty
 One of marks of tru Blievr is intens loylty 2 th/Sav
 Ther R always,& always wilB fair wethr Xpians
 ther R always peo who folo as long as duznt cost 2much
 & wen go gets ruf,they mov on 2othr fields of intrest
 Js Xp cald us fr/daily livs 2liv lif of comitmen & that comit
 ment cald 4us 2B loyl thru thik & thin;thru storm & calm;
 & thru peac & conflic

His prom was nevr we wud liv lif of comf & ease 2/
 rather,He sed=In th/worl U shal hav tribulatin,but I have ovrcum
 th/world
 Th/Stigma He Lef Us is that we do exacly th/oposit of wat worl
 expects
 But ther one Stigma or mark wh/sudB evidencd in lif of Xpian
 At Bgin Scrip red=Vs 31A.
) knu plan 4ares,& deth wer in motin now & it almos as tho
 breath sigh of relief
 & that perhaps wat Jn seek 2imply
 I think all kno wat is 2oprnt undr presur & wen presur removd
 ther sens of burdn B liftd fr/sholdrs
 Js mus hav felt this as wel
 vss 31B-32
 th/comitd Xpian mus folo in futsteps his Mastr & seek L's glory
 it mks no dif wat worl thinks him,tru Blievr livs or trys 2
 liv so wat he duz brings honor 2 God
 I think we knowat this means
 (Ilus Xpian,bumpr stiker=Honk,If U Luv Js=& driv poorly)
 Dur that bring glory 2 God??
 No, of cors not,in fac,bordrlin persn considr join Ch may chng
 mind if think this way Xpians R
 How do marks of Xpx Js Xp fit us???
 Webster defin Stigma as sumth wh/canB butiful or harmful
 We can eithr think of it as B postiv mark,or negtiv mark
 2thoz of worl who Bliev Xpianty sumth 2B avoid lik plague,it
 negtiv mark
 2 th/Blievr who kno lif shudB livd in luv & serv 2 th/L, the
 Stigma wh/Js lef us is worth it all
 we liv this lif not 2pleas men,but 2pleas G
 we liv here not psemntly,but as alien in foreign land
 (Ilus God counted crosses etc)
 If ly wen C futilty of much our efforts that we dum 2 th/realiz
 of wat import & wat is not
 we fus ovr rule/regs of th/Ch;we worry/fret ovr things no amt 2
 anyth
 & in end ques musB ask=Wat was his/her lif worth in wat he/she
 did 4 th/L???
 How do we bear Stigma He Left Us?
 R His makrs evidenupon our livs ea day??
 How is our loylty 2Him expressd?
 Do othrs hear bout Him fr/our lips??
 Duz wat we do honor & glorfy our Sav??
 Is th/cros jus nothr pc pretty jewlry & nuth mor??
 Th/L is cal us fr/the vain pleasures of this worl 2liv 4 Him
 R we wil 2acpt Stigma is ques ea mus ansr

3/11/90

Scripture: John 13:31-38

(Illustration of what Christians are, from "A New Esusebius" page 58-59, taken from the Epistle to Diognetus)

This extract from an naonymous Christian writer, ~~xxxxxx~~ writing in the 100's which was called the 2nd century of the church. Can you see the odd bunch which these Christians were? They had a "Stigma" attached to them which immediately set them apart from the rest of society and the world. Their emblem which was considered an insturment of disgrace, was the cross. That cross has become so common that you may see it worn by anyone, including atheists and pagans. I was at a wedding some time ago and one of the girls in the bridal party was wearing a beautiful cross necklace. I remarked how beautiful it was. She remarked that it was a piece of jewelry she admired and bought it. I ~~xxxxxx~~ remarked on the fact that it was nice to see Christians expressing their faith by displaying what they believe in. She informed me that she wasn't a Christian and didn't go to church.

That story is indicative of our society today. It reminds me of the story ~~of~~ I heard of a woman who went into a jewelry store to buy a necklace with a cross on it.

(Illustration of woman buying cross necklace and man suggesting one that was popular)

A woman wnet into a jewelry store in'ent on purchasing a necklace with a cross on it. She told the clerk she wanted something nice, not elaborate, but rather unique. He told her he had a good selection of cross necklaces and took her to the counter where they were on display. The woman looked at the crosses in the showcase trying to decide. The man wanting to be helpful asked, "Do you just want a plain cross? We have some that are very popular. It is a cross with ~~the~~ figure of a little man on it."

What Jesus left us is "A Stigma" which is either a curse or a blessing. There were certain marks Jesus placed upon all true believers. These marks as seen by the world portray what a Christian is, as opposed to the unbelievers and pagans of society. In this Scripture we read of the firts of these marks in the 34th and 35th verses, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

"Love one another as I have loved you." That is expecting a tremendous amount of love from believers. Think of what the church would be like if every member practiced that love. But that is not the church which the world sees. We have factions and little groups; there are splits and cliques; people gossip and backbite, and the world looks and sees little love. Is it any wonder much of the world sees no need of the church of Jesus Christ.

The love Jesus was talking of here is costly. How did He love us? He loved us to the extreme that He gave His very life's blood on our behalf. True love always costs dearly and it ~~xxx~~ never comes cheap. An anonymous ^{cynical} philosopher once remarked, "Scratch a Christian and you will find a pagan." Was he right? If each of us who belong to the church, as followers of Jesus Christ, were to live the example He set before us, that saying would come out, "Scratch a Christian and you will find a Christian."

Another mark of a Christian is the mark of loyalty. Jesus was speaking to His disciples, trying to explain what was going to take place, so they would know what was happening when it came to pass. Sp He said to them, "that He was going away and where He was going they could not go. Peter as always asked a question about this and it was, "Lord. where are you going?"

Jesus answered, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now; but you shall follow later," vs 36.

Peter answered, "Lord, why can I not follow you right now? I will lay down my life for You," vs 37.

And it is here that Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a cock shall not crow, until you deny Me three times," vs 38.

Although Peter did exactly what Jesus said he would do, what Peter was exhibiting here was an intense loyalty. One of the marks of a true believer is a loyalty to the Savior. There are always those and there always will be, fair-weather Christians. These are the people who only follow as long as it doesn't cost too much. And when the going gets rough, they move on to other fields of interest. Jesus Christ calls us from our daily lives to live a life of commitment. That commitment calls for us to be loyal through thick and thin; through storm and calm; and through peace and conflict. His promise was never that we would live a life of comfort and ease. Rather, He said, "In the world you shall have tribulation, but I have overcome the world. The "Stigma He Left Us," is that we do exactly the opposite of what the world expects.

But there is one mark, or "Stigma" which should be evidenced in the life of the Christian. At the beginning of this Scripture we read, "When he therefore had gone out," verse 31A. Jesus knew that the plans for His arrest and death were in the works and it is almost as though He breathed a sigh of relief. And that is perhaps what John is seeking to imply. I think we all know what it is to be operating under pressure, and when that pressure is removed, there is a sense of a burden being lifted from our shoulders. Jesus must have felt this as well.

John then goes on to say, "Jesus said, 'Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him: if God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and will glorify Him immediately,'" Verses 31B-32.

The committed Christian must follow in the footsteps of his Master, and seek the Lord's Glory. It makes no difference what the world thinks of him, the true believer lives, or tries to live so that what he does brings honor to God. I think it goes without saying that we know what this means. It is like the quote, "Christian" unquote, who has a bumper sticker on his car that says, "Honk if you love Jesus," and then drives like a maniac cutting people out and shaking his fist at them when they do something they believe is stupid. Does that bring glory to God? No, of course not. In fact, anyone who may happen to be a borderline person considering joining the church may be persuaded by this to forget it if this is what Christians are. How do the marks of Jesus Christ fit us? Webster defines a stigma as something which can be both beneficial and harmful. We can either think of it as being a positive mark, or a mark that is negative. To those of the world who believe that Christianity is something to be avoided like the plague it is a negative mark. To the believer who knows that life should be lived in love and service to the Lord, the "Stigma" which Jesus Left Us is worth it all. We live this life not to please men, but to please God. We live here not permanently, but as an alien in a foreign land.

An anonymous writer has spelled it out thusly:

I counted dollars while God counted crosses.
I counted gains, while He counted losses!
I counted my worth by the things gained in store.
But He sized me up by the scars that I bore.

I coveted honrs and sought for degress;
He wept as He counted the hours on my knees.
And I never knew 'til one day at a grave,
How vain are these things that we spend life to save!

It is only when we see the futility of much of our efforts that we come to the realization of what is important and what is not. We fuss over the rules and regulations of the church; we worry and fret over things that don't amount to anything. And in the end the question must be asked, "What was his or her life worth in what he or she did for the Lord?"

How do we bear the "Stigma" which "He Left Us?"

Are His marks evident upon our lives each day?

How is our loyalty to Him expressed?

Do others hear of Him from our lips?

Does what we do honor and glorify our Savior?

Is the cross just a piece of pretty jewelry and nothing more?

The Lord is calling us from the vain pleasures of this world to live for Him.

Are we willing to accept that "Stigma" is the question we each must answer!

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor March 18, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Jennifer Gannon and Wesley Miller
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 56 "God Will Take Care of You"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) We know, O God, that only the
pure in heart shall see thee. Help us in this
season to remove from our lives all the dark
shadows that would hide us from thee. Make us so
clean within that our outward acts will witness to
thy grace; through Jesus Christ, who was tempted as
we are, yet without sin. Amen.

*Kyrle
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
Peopel - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 91 "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "No Wonder" Soloist Lloyd Link
Scripture: John 14: 1-6
Sermon: "He Left Us: Comfort"
*Invitational Hymn No. 223 "I Stand Amazed"
*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlu

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Tracey Smiley in memory of Uncle Henry and Dad.
Kelly Mangel will greet our members and guests at the
door this morning.
Members of the Youth Group will be serving as Ushers today.
Nursery will be provided.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Bill Snyder.
Attendance last Sunday was 124 with 9 visitors.
Sandy Sheppeck and Kathy Goda will be visiting the
hospital this week.
*Hospitalized: Clarence Wolfe in BMH.

> VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL meeting is set for Monday evening at
7:00 P.M. This is important!!!! I need a few more
teachers and lots of helpers. If you can help out please
attend this meeting, or see Mary Jane Weisenstein.

> MARCH 25th - next Sunday - the Youth will sponsor another
Soup & Sandwich Luncheon immediately following church in
Rehoboth Hall. Please come out and support the efforts
of our Youth, as well as taste some great homemade soups.
Fish Fry of this past week was great. Thanks to all for
your help and support. The next one will be on March 28.
We need cakes and pies donated for that dinner as well.
Please sign up with Dick, Helen or Phyllis. We need
helpers also. Thanks again for all you did to help us.

> EASTER LILLIES may be ordered now. The price is \$5.50.
Please drop me a note in the offering plate or see me in
the office. Please be sure to mark to whom they are in
memory of.

> LOVE LOAVES are in the Narthex if you have not already
picked yours up. They are to be returned on Easter Sunday.
This year the funds will go to World Visions project of
Children Immunizations in 7 countries in Africa.

READ "GROWTH MONITORING"
\$20 FOR 4 STEPS

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

Community Bible Church - Sagamore, Pa. - March 22, 1992

Prelude
Announcements/Greetings/Prayer Requests

FASTER PLANS?

Ascription

Call to Worship:

THE LORD IS NIGH TO ALL WHO CALL UPON HIM:

TO ALL WHO CALL UPON HIM IN TRUTH.

HE FULFILLS THE DESIRE OF ALL WHO FEAR HIM:

HE ALSO HEARS THEIR CRY, AND SAVES THEM.

*Hymn

Offering/Prayer

*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn

Scripture: John 14:1-6

Sermon: "He Left Us: Comfort"

*Hymn

*Benediction

*Postlude

(Ilus Merrill Womach) HE LEFT US: COMFORT

IVE FND TH/TEAR SAV & I'M MADE WHOL,I'M PARDND & HAV MY RELEAS.
HIS SP ABIDING & BLESING MY SOUL,FRAS G,IN MY HART THER IS PEAC
WONDRFUL PEAC, WONDRFUL PEACE.

WEN I THINK HOW HE BROT ME FR/DARKNES 2LITE,
THER'S A WONDRFUL,WONDRFUL PEACE.

N in Luthr sed:

Th/BES & MOS COMF SERM THAT TH/L JS XP DELIVRD ON EARTH,A TREASUR
& A JEWEL NOT 2B PURCHASD w/thw worlds guds

vs 1A=STOP LET UR HARTS B TROUBID

1 Peter 1:8

vs 2=Temp was cald - Hous of God

vs 3

(Ilus littl girl & comf griev womn nex dor)

OH NUTHING. I JUS CLIMBD ON HER LAP & CRYD W/HER

vs 4

vs 5

vs 6

(Ilus Augustus Toplady & deth)

Wrot=Rok of Ages,Clef 4ME - dyd at age 38

Wen deth drew near sed=IT IS MY DYING VOW THAT THEZ GRT & GLORUS
TRUTHS WH/TH/L IN RICH MERCY HAS GIVN ME 2BLIEV & ENABLD ME 2
PREACH R NOW BROT IN2PRACTICL & HARTFELT EXPERIENC

THEY R TH/VERY JOY & SUPORT OF MY SOUL. TH/COMF FLOWING ~~FR/TH~~

FR/THEM CARYS ME FAR ABUV TH/THINGS OF TIM & SIN. HAD I WINGS

LIK A DOV I WUD FLY AWAY 2 TH/BOSOM OF G & B AT RES W/HIM

about an hour B4 he dyd he seemd 2awakn fr/a gentl slumbr & his

ls jords wer:

OH! WAT DELITE! WHO CAN FATHM TH/JOY OF HVN! I KNO IT CANOT B

LONG NOW UNTIL MY SAV WIL CUM 4 ME & then bursting in2 a flud of

tears he sed: ALL IS LITE,LITE,LITE,TH/BRTNES OF HIS OWN GLORY

OH CUM L JS, CUM QUIKLY, & he cloed his eyes & entrd etrnty

vss 1-3=READ

"He Left Us: Comfort"
 Scripture: John 14:1-6
 (Ilus Merrill Womach and his comfort in face of afflictin)
 It was Martin Luthr who comentd on our pasag of Scrip: "Th/best
 and mos comftrng serm that th/Lord Js Xp delivrd here on erth,
 a treasur, & a jewl not 2B purchsd w/th/world's guds"
 W) do U turn wen Ur worl fals apart & evrth clapses arnd U????
 4 Meril Womach it was 2 th/One he knu & cud trus no matt wat
 (THEN MARTIN LUTHR QUOT AS ABUV)
 It was thez words of Js wh/Bcam th/only comf th/discips had at
 this tim & fr/that tim onward
 Ks had jus tol them He go 2dy & this wudB brot bout by 1 them
 He had rebukd Petr& tol him he wud deny Him
 4 th/discips thez wer dark hr& & they no undrst all this
 How cud they?
 They Bliev'd th/lif they had w/Js wud continu indef
 He was TH/ONE th/pec of ISR had bin lk 4
 But now! Now,ther world was colaps
 but Js knu ther needs & anticipat ther sorro wh/they wud feel &
 endur so He givs them comf upon comf in thez vss
 He Bgan by say=Vs 1A
 Wat He actuly say in th/tru mean this phras was=STOP LET UR
 HARTS B TROUBLD
 He had jus inform them of final events His lif;He knu prior 2
 this they bin anxus bout many things & now this rev made them
 evn mor anxus so He sed=Vs 1
 Ther faith had bin in G whom they cud not C
 Unseeing they Bliev'd,so Js is tel them=U cant C God & yet U Blie
 & U can C Me,so Bliev in Me whom U can C,Js lik U Bliev in G
 whom U cant C
 His mesag was that they shud keep on Bliev & not let futur ~~xxx~~
 events caus them 2fal away fr/that faith
 P) writ 2Blievrs at latr tim wrot=1 Petr 1:8 - READ
 We havnt seen Js,yet we kno He is aliv;that He is w/us & no
 matt wat th/circums or prob He is ther 2comf us
 Then Js adds prom=Vs 2
 Js want them 2kno in etrnty they cudE w/Him & He no try trik
 of deceiv them
 He sed=IN MY F'S HOUS
 th/templ was call'd=Th/Hous of G
 they cud lk upon hvn much lik they did th/templ
 th/templ also had many chambrs or rooms in it
 so Js is giv them sumth they cud comprehend
 He is pt out,hvn has room 4 evrone
 Here is th/One who cam in2 th/worl & th/worl comprehended Him not
 At th/Inn, Mary/Jos wer tol ther wss no room 4 them & th/Baby
 2B born
 but in hvn ther is room 4any & all who wil cum to Him
 & Js reasurd His discips=If it wer not so I wud hav tol U"

Lik all pec of ISR they Bliev'd G had plac 4them in hvn & Js 2/
 is tel them ther pas Blief was wel founded & if it wernt,He wud
 hav tol them othrwis
 He tol them wen He went bak 2hvn He wud mak evrth redy 4 ea Blie
 And 2furthr giv them this confid He ad=Vs 3
 He spk His return -erth agin
 's cal 2nd Coming in th/Ch
 an even in th/futur& 2 sum exten this doctrin wh/eithr lrgly
 ignord by many Xpians, or it sumth othrs constantly think &
 talk bout
 Th/worl events wh/nw tak plac giv ris 2 nu spec that that day is
 not far off
 But I Bliev pt wh/oftn missd bout this pasag is that Js is prom
 a persnl appearnc 2Blievrs in one way or othr
 Many wil C Him colectivly if He appears B4 they lv this erth in
 deth
 4 th/vast majoroty of Blievrs Js wil cum in th/las moments of 1
 lif & persnly escort them 2 His Fathr's Hous
 His invitatin is ther=THAT WHER I AM THER U MAYB ALSO
 2things R certin=FIRST=He cam 2erth & livd His lif,& workdHis
 minstry & dyd on cros,& ros fr/grav & ascend bak 2 Fathr
 Second is=suntim,sumhow,He wil return 2tak thez who R His 2B
 w/Him
 Ther is th/totl pictur of comf & th/pt Js was mak was simply He
 wud always B w/thoz who R His
 (Ilus littl girl & comf she giv 2griev mothr nex dor)
 This th/comf Js was tel discips bout
 no matt wat circums of lif His prom is He wilB ther & ult wil
 cum bak 4 His own
 It then He sed 2 them=Vs 4
 & Thomas ask=Vs 5
 Js simply say they wel awar He go 2go way of all flesh & dy
 they knu how 2liv & 2continu 2seek afr G
 & Thomas was seek afr clarificatins
 So Js say=Vs 6
 Here complet serm in self,but 2put simply-Js was tel them it
 only thru Him anyone cud hav that specil relaship w/G
 He was ay He & He alon was abl 2restor man fr./falln stat 2
 fellshp w/the Fathr
 He simply say=Trus Me,folo Me,& I'll tak U ther
 He duz not simply sho us th/directins 2 th/F's Hous,He ~~xxxxxxx~~
 carys us ther
 4 th/Xpian,deth is not 2B feard;whethr we dy,or He taks up up
 in th/Raptur,we kno we can trus Him 2tak us hom,2 our Fathr&s
 Hous
 (Ilus Augustus Toplady & his deth)
 2him,th/words G inspird him 2writ wer tru realty=Rok of Ages,
 Cleft 4Me,let me hide myself in Thee
 Js is all we need=He is Way=He is Truth=He is Life=& He is our
 map=He is our only constant comf=He invits us 2cum 2Him & He in
 turn wil cum 2us-READ vss 1-3

"He Left Us: Comfort"

Scripture: John 14:1-6

(Illustration of Merrill Womach and his comfort in the midst of his pain and suffering)

Merrill Womach who is a Christian singer today was piloting his plane when it struck a tree during takeoff in the winter of 1961. The plane caught fire and Mr. Womach tumbled out of that plane, his body engulfed in flames. Some people found him and put him in their car and drove him to the hospital. If you read his book and saw the pictures of this man, you know that his head and face were so horribly burned, people got sick at the sight of him. These people driving him to the hospital were shocked and amazed to hear a voice coming from this incinerated human the words:

I've found the dear Savior and I'm made whole,
I'm pardoned and have my release.
His Spirit abiding and blessing my soul,
Praise God, in my heart there is peace.
Wonderful peace, wonderful peace.
When I think how He brought me from darkness to light,
There's a wonderful, wonderful peace.

Where do you turn when ~~all~~ your world falls apart and everything collapses around you? For Merrill Womach it was to the One that he knew he could trust no matter what.

It was Martin Luther who ^{called} ~~the~~ our Scripture passage, "the best and most comforting sermon that the Lord Christ delivered on earth, a treasure and a jewel not to be purchased with the world's goods."

It was these words of ~~Jesus~~ Jesus which became the only comfort the disciples had at this time and from that time forward. Jesus had just told them that He was going to die and this would be brought about by one of them. He had rebuked Peter and told him that he would deny Him. For the disciples these were dark hours and they didn't understand all of this. How could they? They believed that the life they had with Jesus would continue on indefinitely. He was THE ONE the people of Israel had been looking for. But now! Now! their world was collapsing. Jesus knew their need and anticipated the sorrow they ~~would~~ would feel and endure and so He gives them comfort, upon comfort in these verses.

He began by saying, "Let not your heart be troubled," verse 1A. What He was actually saying in the true meaning of this phrase was, "Stop letting your hearts be troubled." He had just informed them of these final events of His life. He knew that prior to this they had been anxious about many things and now ~~this~~ this revelation made them even more anxious. So He said, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me." verse 1.

Their faith had been in God whom they could not see. Unseeing, they believed. So Jesus is telling them, "You can't see God and yet you believe, and you can see Me, so believe in Me whom you can see, just like you believe in God whom you can't see." His message was that they should keep on believing and not let the future events cause them to fall away from that faith.

~~Adding~~ Peter, writing to believers at a later time wrote, ~~Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory,"~~ 1 Peter 1:8

We haven't seen Jesus, yet we know that He is alive; that He is with us and that no matter what the circumstances or the problem He is there to comfort us.

Then Jesus added a promise, "In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." verse 2.

Jesus wanted them to know that in eternity they could be with Him and He was not trying to trick or deceive them. He said, "In My Father's house." The temple was called, "The House of God."

He is speaking of His return to earth again. This is called "The Second Coming" in the Church. It is an event in the future and to some extent this is a doctrine which is either largely ignored by many Christians, or it is something that others are constantly thinking and talking about. The world events which are now taking place give rise to new speculation that that day is not too far off. But I believe the point which is missed about this passage is that Jesus is promising a personal appearance to believers in one way or another. Many will see Him ~~then~~ collectively if He appears before they leave this earth in death. But for the vast majority of believers, Jesus will come in the last moments of life and personally escort them to His Father's House. His invitation is there. "That where I am, there you may be also." ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Two things are certain. The first is that He came to earth and lived His life and worked His ministry, and He died on the cross and rose from the grave, and ascended back to the Father.

~~xxxxxxx~~He will come again in one way or another and those who are His belong to Him

The second is, that sometime, somehow, He will return to take those who are His to be with Him. There is the total picture of comfort. The point Jesus was making was simply that He would always be with those who were His.

A little girl had a playmate living next door who became ill and died. Several days after the funeral the little girl came into the house and told her mother that she had gone next door to comfort the sorrowing mother. Her mother asked her, "What did you say?" She replied, "Nothing. I just climbed up on her lap and cried with her."

This is the comfort that Jesus was telling His disciples about. No matter what the circumstances of life, His promise is that He will be there, and ultimately He will come back for His own.

But Thomas, wanting to understand what He was saying, asked, "Lord, we know not whither Thou goest; and how can we know the way?" verse 5.

Jesus was simply saying that they were aware that He was going to go the way of all flesh and die. And they knew how to live and continue to seek after God. And Thomas was looking for clarification. So then Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." verse 6.

Here is a complete sermon in itself. But to state it simply is that Jesus was telling them that it is only through Him that anyone can have that special relationship with God. He was saying that He and He alone is able to restore man from his fallen state, to fellowship with

God. He was simply saying, "Trust Me, follow Me, I'll take you there." He does not ~~xxx~~ simply show us the directions to the Father's house, He carries us there. For the Christian death is not to be feared. Whether we die, or whether He takes us in the Rapture, we know that we can trust Him to take us home, to our Father's House.

(Illustration of Augustus Toplady and his death)

August Toplady who wrote the hymn, "Rock of Ages," died in London at the age of thirty-eight. When death drew near he said, "It is my dying vow that these great and glorious truths which the Lord in rich mercy has given me to believe and enabled me to preach are now brought into practical and heartfelt experience. They are the very joy and support of my soul. The comfort ~~affixing~~ flowing from them carries me far above the things of time and sin. Had I wings like a dove I would fly away to the bosom of God and be at rest."

About an hour before he died he seemed to awaken from a gentle slumber, and his last words were, "Oh! What delight! Who can fathom the joy of heaven! I know it cannot be long now until my Savior will come for me." And then bursting into a flood of tears he said, "All is light, light, light, the brightness of His own glory. Oh come Lord Jesus, come. Come quickly!" And he closed his eyes.

To him, the words God inspired him to write were a true reality. "Rocks of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee." Jesus is all that we need. He is the way, the truth, and the life. He is our map. He is our only constant comfort. He invites us to come to Him and He in turn will come to us. "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am there you may be also."

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor March 25, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Jenny Gannon and Wesley Miller
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 363 "To God Be the Glory"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) O Lord, we do not understand our own actions; for we do not do the good we want to do; but the evil we do not want, that is what we do. We do not do the thing we want to do, but the very thing we hate is what we do. We can will what is right, but somehow cannot do it. Father, we believe; help our unbelief. All this we ask in the Master's name. Amen.
*Kyrle
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 79 "Trusting Jesus"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.
Morning Prayer
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "Jesus In The Morning"
Scripture: John 14: 7-14
Sermon: "He Left Us: Deity"
*Invitational Hymn No. 228 "I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by Mrs. Genevieve Nohach in memory of Nick Nohach.
Mrs. Catherine Johnston will greet our members and guests at the door this morning.
Serving as Ushers today are Dick Mangel, Dick Dally, Don Kingsley and Donley Martin.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Joan Campbell.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Dick Mangel.
Attendance last Sunday was 110 with 9 visitors.
Paul Riemer and Donley Martin will be visiting the hospital this week.

> Hospitalized: Clarence Wolfe in BMH.
> SOUP & SANDWICH Luncheon will follow the church service in Rehoboth Hall. This is sponsored by the Youth Group. Please join them in support of their projects.
> NEW MEMBERS will be taken into the church on Palm Sunday, April 8th. If you or anyone you know may be interested in joining, please see the Pastor.
The new ferns which grace the chancel area were given to the church by Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Tait. Thanks!!! They help make the church look brighter.
GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST will be held on April 13th at 6:00 A.M. Tickets are \$3.00 each and you may purchase them from Howdy Bolam or Jake Harmon. It is held at the YMCA. Tuesday evening, 6:30 we will set up the hall for the Wednesday Fish Fry. Come out and help us. Also don't forget to bring in your cakes and pies on Wednesday. If you would like to volunteer to help, please see Dick, Helen or Phyllis.
> EASTER LILLIES are now to be ordered. The price is \$5.50 each. Ordering deadline is April 8th. Please drop me a note in the offering plate or let the office know.
BENEVOLENCE committee will meet on April 2nd at 7:00 P.M.
CHURCH COUNCIL meeting will be held on April 4th at 7 P.M.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you desire.

Community Bible Church - Sagamore, Pa. - April 5, 1992

Prelude

Announcements/Greetings/Joys/Prayer Requests

Ascription

Call to Worship:

O MAGNIFY THE LORD WITH ME, AND LET US EXALT HIS NAME
TOGETHER.
O TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD: BLESSED IS THE MAN
THAT TRUSTETH IN HIM.
O FEAR THE LORD, YE HIS SAINTS: FOR THERE IS NO WANT TO
THEM THAT FEAR HIM.

*Hymn

Offering/Prayer

*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn

Scripture: John 14:7-14

Sermon: "He Left Us: Deity" - 3/25/90 - Butler, St. Paul's

*Hymn

*Benediction

*Postlude

(Ilus girl try draw pictur of G)
THEY WIL WEN I'M DUN

Francis Thompson:

LITL JS, WAST THOU SHY ONCE, & JUS SO SMAL AS I?
& WAT DID IT FEEL 2B OUT OF HVN & JUS LIK ME?

Ge MacDonal:

Y WER ALL LKING 4A KING 2SLAY THER FOES & LIFT THEM HI
THOU CAMEST, A LITL BABY THING, THAT MADE A WOMAN CRY

Unknown Author:

THER WAS A KNIGHT OF BETHLEHEM WHOS WELTH WAS TEARS & SORROWS
HIS MEN AT ARMS WER LITL LAMBS, HIS TRUMPETRS WER SPARROWS

Vs 7 - Profound Theo statment

vs 9B

vs 10-11 - 2prufs He God

1st-vs 10B

Feast Tabs & NEVR MAN SPAK LIK THIS MAN Jn 7:46

(Ilus Pathr/son & fire - I CAN C YOU)

BLESSD R THEY WHO HAV NOT SEEN & YET HAV BLIEVD

2nd-vs 10B

Pruf-vs 11

Laura Grace Eisenhower & exampl G talk 2-Js & quest walk on erth:

I WONDR IF EVR AMONGST TH/ONE IN THREE

ONE ASKD ANOTHR ONE, "HOW DUZ IT FEEL

2WALK W/TIME & FLESH OUR LITL ERTH;

HOW DUZ IT FEEL MY SON?"

& CUD HE TEL TH/BAREFT FEEL OF GRAS FRESH-WET W/DEW;

TH/SPLASHING OF TH/SEA UPON TH/SAND:

SUDEN BREEZ W/HONYSUCKL LADN;

2HUMN EARS TH/MEADOWLARKS ENTREATY,

2HUM EYES TH/DAISY COVRD HILL;

2CLIMB W/YNG LIMBEL STRNTH TH/STRONG OAK.

OR STRECH ONESELF 2REST IN ITS COOL SHADE;

2WATCH AS POETS WATCH A THOUSAND SKIES

& NEVR SEE THEM TWIC TH/SAME;

2KNO TH/ERTHLY RAPTUR OF TH/DAWN,

ERTHS TURNING, YEARNING, REACHING OUT FOR LITE;

& THEN, WEN DAY IS DUN, 2KNO AS WEL TH/SOFNES & BLESDENES OF NITE

2REMEMBR TH/TENDRNES OF MOTHS TOUCH; 2WALK AS OTHR BOYS, AS MAN

W/OTHR MEN & WOMN -- KNO DEVOTIN AS ERTHLY LUVV;

PREREQUISITE 2HVN?

& WUD HE SAY W/THANKFULNES, THAT THIS, 2HAV KNOWN BOTH ERTH &

HVN & 2B BOTH MAN & GOD, IS HIS ETRNL BLISS?

Js in certin semnarys & ask=WHO DO U SAY THAT I AM???

U R TH/ESCHATOLOGICAL MANIFESTATIN OF TH/KERYGMA IN WH/WE RECOG

TH/ULTIMAT SIGNIF OF OUR INTRPERSNL RELATINS

He Left US: Deity"

Scripture: John 14:7-14
 (Ilus girl try draw pictur of God)
~~xxxxxx~~ Th/age ol quest=wat Duz G lk Lik? has always bin askd
 We read in Sctrip at creatin of man G sez=Let us mak man our imag
 So ansr is we mus lk ~~xxxx~~ lik G, or mor acurately-we lk sumth
 k G
 Man has alway tryd 2draw mentl picturs of G use all sorts analgys
 perhap mos frequent way try pictur G has cum thru writ bout Baby
 Js - EXAMPLS of this
 As minstry Js was cum ~~xxxxxx~~ 2dramatic clos, th/few remain hrs &
 minuts lef 2them Js used 2teach discips sum thing need 2kno
 In prev 6vss 14th chap Jn red how Js sot 2comf folors by tel
 altho lv near futur, wud prep plaf 4them in hvn 2await them wen
 depar this erth
 He pt out He only way 4anyone 2cum 2 God
 Now mak profound theo statmen by say=vs 7 - READ
 He basicly say if saw Him, saw G Bcuz He & G wer One
 He maks this stamen aftr Phil askd 4 Js 2sho them Fathr, & that
 wud satisfy curiosity concern G & wat He lk lik
 He sed=Vs 9B-READ
 Phil's quest bout G was legit
 all along, ea step this minstry they had shard w/Js ovr 3yr had
 gradulygiv pruf He prom Mesiah fr/G
 but now tol His lif bout 2end & this jus no fit concep of wat
 Mesiah was 2B
 He was invincbl & no one was 2defeat Him, or so they thot
 Now they confusd
 So then Js elab furthr 2pruv wat He say by add=Vss 10-11=READ
 Js was tel them ther 2distinc thing wh/pruvd 2them He was G
 1st pruf=TH/WORDS THAT I SPK UN2 U, I SPK NOT OF MYSELF
 2nd pruf=Jas in previus fal of yr dur Feast Tabs Js had secrly slipd
 ind temp 2observ feast
 th/relig ldrs ther wer desirus hav Him arestd, but no one made
 efort 2do so
 wen ch/priest & Phars quest why Js no bin ares, th/officers of temp
 ansr=NEVR MAN SPAK LIK THIS MAN=Jn 7:46
 th/one thing wh/shud hav pruv He was G, was His words
 not only He spk Scripturly, but spok w/authorthy
 Wher wud lowly son of carp get such knowledg as Js impart?
 thez wer quests askd by many othrs
 but thez discips shud hav kno difrtly & that why Js rebuk Phil
 wat Phil was expres was lak of faith
 prob all othr discips wer feel sam, but only Phil expresd it
 (Ilus of fathr, son, & hous fire=I CAN C YOU)
 th/discips wer lik this fr/fespec they wer C God evr day had
 walkd/talkd w/Js - but they stil didnt C Him
 at a stil latr tim Js had 2deal w/sam lak of faith all ovr agin
 it was aftr His resur & Tom sed wudnt Bliev it Js arisen fr/gra
 unles touch wounds in hands, side

Js ansrd wen Tom finly did C Him - BLESSD R THEY WHO HAV NOT 2/
 SEEN & YET ~~BLIEV~~ HAVE BLIEVD
 faith, demans we acpt many thing wh/canot C & this wat Js try tel
 Phil & othrs who perhaps doubt as much as he

2nd element Js pt out that pruv He was G was His works
 v DB=READ
 Js did marvlus thing wh/sumone cud only do w/G's help
 no humn had bin abl perf th/mity miracls wh/Js did tim aftr tim
 Thez deeds in themselvs shud hav pruvd conclusivly who He was
 Yet, discips hear & kno scepticism rnd them, quest lik evrone els
 Js ansr 2 Phil & them was ptd reply=Vs 11 - READ
 In othr words, IF U CANOT BLIEV THAT I AM G, THEN WORKS WH/I HAV
 DUN SHUD PRUF ENUF I AM G IN TH/FLESH
 but man has alway wrestl w/rev of G thru Js Xp
 woman named=~~xxxx~~ Laura Grace Esienhower of Phoenix, Ariz lks at
 it fr/standpt of G talk 2 Js & quest walk on erth among men
 (READ this ilus)
 His lif & walk mong us was indeed G in th/Flesh
 sumone wrot bout Js appear certin semnarys:
 (Ilus of this quest & ansr)
 Theologins hav tryd expl Him w/catch phrases & big words
 comon man has eithr acptd Him or ignord Him
 But Js, try 2pruv & expl that He was G, walkd out of that room
 that nite 2pruv it conclusivly by dy on cros nex day
 Only a fool or a madman wud let Himself B tkn captiv & executd
 4crimes He didnt comit
 Js was neithr a fool or a madman & by His septicanc of deth at hanc
 of thoz who perprat deed, He pruvd He had 2B G
 He Left Us, th/fac that G cam 2erth 4us indivdly
 He was=Deity, or God
 G invites us 2kno Himself thru Js Xp, & 2shar that specil
 relatsip w/Him

"He Left Us: Deity"

Scripture: John 14:7-14

(Illustration of little girl drawing picture of God)

A little girl asked her mother for some paper to draw a picture. Her mother got her the paper and she said the paper wasn't big enough, did she have a bigger piece. The mother gave her a bigger piece and she took her crayons and began to draw. Her father asked her, "what are you drawing, honey?" She answered, "A picture of God." Her dad answered, "But nobody knows what God looks like." The girl replied, "They will when I'm done."

The age old question has always been, "What does God look like?" We read in Scripture at the creation of man that God says, "Let us make man in our image." So the answer is that God must look something like us, or more accurately, we look something like God. Man has always tried to draw mental pictures of God using ~~xxxxxx~~ analogies of all kinds. Perhaps the most frequent way of trying to picture God has come down to us through the medium of writing about the Baby

Jesus. Francis Thompson wrote:

"Little Jesus, wast Thou shy
Once, and just so small as I?
And what did it feel to be
Out of heaven and just like me?"

George Mac Donald wrote:

"They were all looking for a king
To slay their foes and lift them high;
Thou camest, a little baby thing,
That made a woman cry."

Another unknown person wrote:

"There was a knight of Bethlehem
Whose wealth was tears and sorrows;
His men at arms were little lambs,
His trumpeters were sparrows"

~~xxxxxx~~ As the ministry of Jesus was coming to a dramatic close, the few remaining hours and minutes left to them Jesus used to teach His disciples some things they still needed to know. In the previous 6 verses of this 14th chapter of John we read how Jesus sought to comfort His followers by telling them that although He was leaving them in the near future, He would prepare a place in heaven to await them when they departed this earth. He pointed out that He was the only way open for anyone to come to God. Now He makes a very profound theological statement by saying, "If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him," verse 7.

He is basically saying that if they saw Him, they saw God, because He and God were one. He makes this very statement after Philip had asked for Jesus to show them the Father, and that would satisfy their curiosity concerning God and what He looked like. He said, "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father," verse 9B.

Philip's question about God was legitimate. All along, each step of this ministry they had shared with Jesus over the last three years had gradually given them proof that He was the promised Messiah sent from God. But now they were being told that His life was about to end and this just didn't fit the concept of what the Messiah was to be. He was invincible and no one was to defeat Him. Or so they thought. Now they were confused. So Jesus then elaborates further to prove what He is saying, by adding, (Read verses 10 & 11). Jesus was telling them that there were two distinct things which proved to them that He was God. The first proof was, "The words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself."

It was in the previous fall of the year during the Feast of the Tabernacles that Jesus had

secretly slipped into the temple to observe the feast. The religious leaders there were desirous of having Him arrested. But no one made any effort to do so. When the chief priest and the Pharisees questioned why Jesus had not been arrested, the officers of the temple answered, "Never man spake like this man," John 9:46. The one thing which should have proved that He indeed was God, was His words. Not only did He speak Scripturally, but He spoke with authority. Where would a lowly son of a carpenter get such knowledge as Jesus imparted? These were the questions asked by many others. But these disciples should have known differently. That is why Jesus rebuked Philip. What Philip was expressing was a lack of faith. Probably, all the other disciples were feeling the same thing, but only Philip expressed it.

(Illustration of father and son, and house fire)

Early one morning a father was awakened by the smoke detector in his basement. He woke his wife and they quickly went to their children's bedroom and woke them up. They started heading toward the door through the smoke which was getting quite heavy. He was carrying his one and a half-year-old daughter in his arms and holding the hand of his four-year-old son. The boy was scared and unsure of what was happening, pulled away from his father and ran to what he thought was a place of safety -- a corner of his room where his favorite stuffed animals were kept. The father got outside and called to his son who appeared at the bedroom window, crying and calling for help. The father told him to jump, but the boy said, "I can't see you." The father called back, "That's alright, I can see you."

The disciples were like this from the respect that they were seeing God every day they had walked and talked, and fellowshiped with Jesus. But they still didn't see Him. At a still later time Jesus had to deal with this same lack of faith all over again. It was after the resurrection and Thomas had said he wouldn't believe that it was Jesus arisen from the grave unless he touched the wounds in His hands and side. Jesus answered when Thomas finally did see Him, "Blessed are they who have not seen and yet have believed." Faith demands that we accept many things which we cannot see and this is what Jesus was trying to tell Philip and the others who perhaps doubted as much as he.

But the second element Jesus pointed out that proved that He was God was His works. He said, "The Father that dwelleth in Me, He doeth the works," verse 10B).

Jesus did some marvelous things which ~~only~~ someone could only do ~~ix~~ with God's help. No human had been able to perform the mighty miracles which Jesus did time after time. These deeds in themselves should have proved conclusively who He was. Yet, the disciples hearing and knowing the scepticism around them, questioned like everyone else. Jesus answer to ~~xxx~~ Philip and them was the pointed reply, "Believe Me that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me: or else believe Me for the very works sake," verse 11.

In other words, "If you cannot believe that I am God, then the works which I have done should be proof enough that I am God in the flesh." But man has always wrestled with the revelation of God through Jesus Christ. A woman named Laura Grace Eisenhower, of Phoenix, Arizona looks at it from the standpoint of God talking to Jesus and questioning His walk on earth among men.

She writes: I wonder if ever amongst the One in Three
One asked Another One, "How does it feel
to walk with time and flesh our little earth;
How does it feel, My Son?"
And could He tell
The barefoot feel of grass fresh-wet with dew;
The splashing of the sea upon the sand;
Sudden breeze with honeysuckle laden;
To human ears the meadowlark's entreaty,
To human eyes the daisy-covered hill;

To climb with young-limbed strength the strong oak.
Or stretch oneself to rest in its cool shade;
To watch as poets watch a thousand skies
and never see them twice the same;
To know the earthly rapture of the dawn,
Earth's turning, yearning, reaching out for light;
And then, when day is done, to know as well
The softness and blessedness of night;

To remember the tenderness of mother's touch;
To walk as other boys, as man
With other men and women -- know devotion
As earthly love, prerequisite to heaven?

And would He say, with thankfulness, that this,
To have known both earth and heaven, and to be
Both God and man, is His eternal bliss?

His life and walk among us, was indeed God in the flesh. Someone wrote about Jesus appearing in certain Seminaries today and asking the question, "Who do you say that I am?" And the answer would be: "You are the eschatological manifestation of the kerygma in which we recognize the ultimate significance of our interpersonal relations."

And Jesus would probably say, "What?"

Theologians have tried to explain Him with catch phrases and big words. Common man has either simply accepted Him or ignored Him. But Jesus, trying to explain that He was God, walked out of that room that night to prove Who He really was the next day on a cross. Only a fool or a madman would let himself be taken captive and executed for crimes He didn't commit. Jesus was neither a fool, nor a madman and by His ~~xxxxx~~ acceptance of death at the hands of those who perpetrated the deed, He proved that He had to be God. "He Left Us," the fact that God came to earth, for us individually. He was - "Deity" or God. And God invites us to know Himself, through Jesus Christ, and to share that special relationship through Him.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 1, 1990

Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist

Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music

Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist

Acolytes: Ray Gamble and Jimmy Shearer

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

Joys

Prayer Requests

*Processional Hymn No. 422 "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

*Ascription

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) Most merciful Father, we confess
that we have sinned against you and against our
fellowman. We have followed too closely the pathway
that was easy, and we have done whatever we desired.
We have failed to praise you with our words and
deeds, and we have ignored the needs of others. Even
though we have known your will for our lives, we
have failed to follow it. Grant your mercy unto
us, O Father, as we express our regret for that
which we have done. Receive us again into your fold,
as we would endeavor to go forth serving you more
faithfully, in the name of Christ. Amen.

*Kyrle

*Assurance of Pardon

*Priase: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God

People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Children's Moment

Hymn No. 161 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You

People - And with Thy Spirit

Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Offering

Offertory - "The Old Rugged Cross"

*Doxology - page 382

Anthem: "Fairrest Lord Jesus"

Scripture: John 14: 15-26

Sermon: "He Left Us: The Comforter"

*Invitational Hymn No. 147 "Spirit of God, Descend upon
my Heart"

*Closing Chimes

*Benediction

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stewart in memory of Loved Ones.

Mr. & Mrs. Dick Dally will greet our members and guests

at the door this morning.

Ushering today are Marty Henry, John Snow, Walter

Hollefreund, and Jeff Snyder.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Diana Hollefreund.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Dick Mangel.

Attendance last Sunday was 121 with 9 visitors.

Jim Gannon and Ginny Mangel will be visiting the hospital
this week.

Hospitalized: Clarence Wolfe and Becky Shearer in BMH.

The Activities Committee would like to thank all of its
workers and bakers for their generous contributions to
another successful Fish Fry. Without your help and
support our efforts would be in vain. Thanks again!!!

NEW MEMBERS will be taken into the church on April 8th.

If you would like to join our "church family" please see
the Pastor or let the office know.

GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST - see Jake or Howdy for tickets. The
price is \$3.00 each. This is held at 6:00 A.M. at the
YMCA on April 13th.

EASTER LILLIES can be ordered. The price is \$5.50 each.

Please drop me a note if you would like to purchase one.

They are used to decorate for Easter Sunday, so lets

help beautify the church on such a wonderful day.

BENEVOLENCE meeting Monday evening at 7 P.M.

COUNCIL MEETING on Wednesday at 7 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS meeting April 10th at 7 P.M.

EASTER SUNRISE BREAKFAST - 6:30 A.M. on Easter Sunday. We
are now taking reservations for the breakfast. Also we
would like the ladies or men to bake us some breakfast
rolls. If you can bake and to make your reservations,
see Dick Mangel. Dick is also looking for a few good
men to cook the breakfast. Please let him know by the 10th.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

(Ilus Bobby & promise)
 NO SIR, BUT SHE PROMISD ME SUNTH IF I DIDN'T
 vs 15
 LIK SHEEP W/OUT SHEPHERD
 vs 16-17
 ANOTHER= SUMONE JUS LIK ME
 COMFORTER= PARACLETOS - ONE CALLED ALONGSIDE
 (sumone lik witnes in cortcase; pep talk; expert witnes)
 I AM SEND U SUMONE EXACTLY LIK ME WHO WIL STAN ALONGSID U AS U
 LIV FOR ME
 Jn wrot=WE HAV AN ADVOCAT W/THE FATHER
 Advocate=PARACLETOS
 VS 16B= Forevr
 VS 17A=SP OF TRUTH
 vs 17B= P wrot - 1 Cor 2:12-14 - READ
 VS 17C= W d cum 2them
 VS 26
 (Ilus city dwellr & dry cow)
 (Ilus G Harding wood & Sp leading)
 How many us really folo lead of H Sp?
 How many insted sit bak, caus not our job?
 How many seek tel dy friends/neighbors wil spen etrnty Hell
 w/out Js Xp?
 How many us quench H Sp tim afr tim?
 VS 26
 invitatin acpt Xp, let H Sp direc us w/mesag 2othrs
 How many wil acpt invitatin 2day??

"He Left Us: The Comforter"
 Scripture: John 14:15-26
 (Ilus yng Bobby and promise if no pickup toys)
 Proms R part of lif-receiv fr/merchnts, stors desir hav mak purch
 receiv proms fr/volntcins & ofic seekrs & receiv proms Sp realm
 If red OT awar G prom Isites many thing bles/curs determ obed
 In Scrip this morn Js prom discip His presenc afr no longr w/th
 1. fac, this portin Scrip Bgin w/prom G made 2peo as record OT
 vs 15=Js no set 4th nu commands contrary wat G givn
 all He say if they 2B tru folowrs His ther livs wer 2reflec by
 obed 2wat taut & shown them
 Js awar afr departur fr/them, His folowrs wer go 2B lik He sed-
 AS SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD
 His thrus this chap was 2giv them assur continu presenc w/them
 How cud this R? How wud they comprhend this?
 2do so He tol t em=Vss 16-17
 we need 1st undrst Js no "pray" 2 Father, G wud acompl this
 old Eng word=Pray not adequat - shudB Ask & in that contex Js
 in consultatin w/G determ presenc Js wud continu in servs livs
 & this best way handl this
 So Anothr Comftr wud cum 2them
 ANOTHER=means Sumone jus lik Me
 Js say=Godhed detrm Sumone lik Js shud cum 2 His folowrs "B with
 them 4evr
 Comforter=in Grk is PARACLETOS & means one calld alongsid
 cudB persn cal lawsuit 2giv t stmony in sumones favor
 miteB witnes testify wen serius penlty miteB enactd & miteB an
 expert calld 2giv advic, Or sumone 2giv peptalk 2encourag soldrs
 So Js is say=I AM SEND U SUMONE EXACTLY LIK ME WHO WIL STAN LONG
 SIDE U AS U LIV FOR ME
 th/discip had Js as Paravâlete 4 - 3yrs
 he help them/comf them/walkd Bsid them
 w they wud hav nothr helpr-but One exactly lik Js
 this prom no jus to thez fritend/discouragd discip, but 2any & al
 Blievrs
 we hav 2 Paracletes actuly - Hav Sp of G w/in us & hav Js Xp at
 bite hand of G
 Jn tels us 1st lettr wher expl=We hav an advocat w/th/Fathr
 Advocat=meansOne alongsid & is PAPACLETE
 th/discip mus felt sens comf/relief 2kno very presenc Mastr
 wud go w/them & B w/them
 but assur fr/Js was not 2B 4jus short periud time
 He tol them=Vs 16B
 Js tol them this Paraclete, or One alongsid wudB Sp of Truth
 Js had jus tol them=I am th/Way, th/Truth
 G is truth & this Sp wudB Truth, very essenc of G
 & discip wer B taut/tol they wud undrst this Sp, but worl No
 If worl no recogniz 1st Comf, how wud recogniz 2nd??
 they had seen Js & no Bliev, how cud Bliev Sp cud not C???

Apos P wrot=1 Cor 2:12-14 - READ 2/
 othr words,th/only way man cud undrst things of G is 2hav Sp of
 G
 Js was tel folors aftr His deth & lef erth ther wudB His Sp
 who wud cum 2them - Vs 17B
 then went on 2say=Vs 26
 not only wud hav indwel presenc H Sp,but H Sp wudB at work them
 tel H Sp ther 4ther guidanc/directin as sot 2serv & cary mes
 mesag 2 th/worl
 (Ilus city dwellr & dry cow)
 this principl Js outlin 2 discips
 H Sp was 2B in them,& it His job 2direc in2 rememb Js did & then
 do work & gro in aditinal teach wh/H Sp wud lead them in2
 they werB tol indwel wud tak plac,but of necesty had 2B availB
 4it
 & they wer as we lern fr/buk Acts 2nd chap,vivid act wat powr of
 H Sp can do in livs:peo put selvs disposl H Sp
 altho acctrecord miraculus event,that indwel presenc/powr H Sp
 stil availb any & all Blievrs
 at rebirth persn,or pt wen cums 2 Xp,H Sp taks residenc in that
 persns lif
 but it lean,or lak of lean on H Sp wh/detrms how indwelt persn
 is
 ther thoz giv evidenc H Sp whil many othrs seem 2hav lak of Sp
 pt is that up 2us 2seek Sp's lead 4our livs
 we need 2ask G 2direc us thru H Sp & He wil
 (Ilus G Harding Wood & leading of H Sp)
 & G did send sumbody
 He promptd chauffr's preachr 2ask bout employr wh/ppn way 4yng
 man 2hear Gospl
 & G duz that 2ea us wen indwels us w/H Sp & we hav indwel wen
 hav Nu Birth
 B how many us R realy follo lead of H Sp?
 How many us insted R sit bak & do nuth Bcuz that not our job?
 How many us R seek 2tel dying frends neighbors go 2spen etrnty
 in Hel w/out Xp???
 How many of us quench H Sp tim aftr tim????
 G provid His H Spso we can & cudB efectiv witnes 4 Him
 He want us 2hav that Sp of Truth teach us all things,
 & bring 2our remem all Js sed 2us
 His invitatin is 2 - 1st all acapt Js Xp as L & Sav & then
 let H Sp direc us w/mesag 2othrs
 Wil U acapt that invitatin 2day??

"He Left US: The Comforter"

Scripture: John 14:15-26

(Illustration of Bobby picking up his toys)

The family pastor stopped at the home of one of his younger members. Their young son was busy picking up his toys in the living room where he had scattered them. The pastor commended him for doing this and asked, "Did your mother promise you something for picking them up?" Bobby answered, "No sir, but she promised me something if I didn't."

Promises are a part of life. We receive promises from merchants and stores who desire to have us make purchases from them; we receive promises from politicians and office seekers; and we also receive promises in the spiritual realm. If you ~~xxx~~ read the Old Testament of the Bible you are well aware that God promised the Israelites many things concerning blessings or curses which were determined by their obedience or lack of it. In our Scripture this morning, Jesus is promising His followers a means of His presence even after He was no longer with them. In fact, this portion of Scripture begins with a promise much like God made to His people as recorded in the Old Testament. Jesus said, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments," verse 15. Jesus was not setting forth something which was contrary to that which God had given. All that He was saying, was that if they were to be true followers of His, their lives were to reflect that by obedience to what He had taught them and shown them. Jesus was aware that ~~After~~ His departure from them, His followers were going to be like He had said, "As sheep without a shepherd." His thrust in this chapter has been to give them the assurance of His continued presence with them. But how could He do this? How would they understand or begin to comprehend this? To do so He told them, "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you," verses 16-17.

We need to first understand that Jesus did not "pray" that God would accomplish this. That old English word of "pray" is not adequate. The word should be rendered, "Ask." In that context, Jesus, in consultation with the Father determined that the only way the presence of Jesus could continue in believers lives, would be if those lives were indwelt by the presence of God. So it was determined by the Father and the Son, that "Another Comforter" come to them. The word "Another" in Greek is significant because as many other words there were several meanings for the word. The word "Another" as written here has the meaning of "someone just like Me." So Jesus was saying that the Godhead had determined that "Someone like Jesus" should come to His followers to be ~~them~~ with them forever.

The word "Comforter" in Greek is "Paracletos" and it means, "one who is called alongside." It was a person who may have been called in a lawsuit to give testimony in someone's favor; it might be a witness to testify when a serious penalty might be enacted; it might be an expert called to give advice; or it might have been someone called in to give a pep talk to encourage a troop of soldiers going into battle. So what Jesus is saying is, "I am sending you someone exactly like Me who will stand alongside you as you live for Me." The disciples had Jesus as their "paraclete" for 3 years. He had helped them, comforted them, and walked beside them. Now they would have another helper - but One exactly like Jesus. This promise was not just to these frightened and discouraged disciples, but to any and all who are believers. We have two

"paraclets" actually. We have the Holy Spirit, God within us, and we have Jesus Christ at the right hand of the Father. John tells us this in his first letter where he explains that we, "have an advocate with the Father." And that word "advocate" is the same word used here ~~xx~~ it is "Paraclete."

The disciples must have felt a sense of comfort and relief to know that the very presence of their Master would go with them and be with them. But the assurance from Jesus was not to be for just a short period of time. He told them, "That He might abide with you forever," vs 16B. Jesus told them that this "paraclete," or "one alongside" would be "The Spirit of truth." Jesus had just told them, "I am the way, the truth." God is truth, and this Spirit would be Truth, the very essence of God. And the disciples were being told that they would understand this Spirit, but the world would not. If the world did not recognize the First Comforter, Jesus Himself, how could they recognize the second Comforter which they wouldn't be able to see? It was the Apostle Paul writing about this very thing to the people in Corinth who said, (Read 1 Cor 2:12-14). In other words, the only way a man can understand the things of God is to have the Spirit of God. Jesus was telling His followers that after He left this earth there would be His Spirit who would come to them. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ "For He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you," verse 17B,

is what He told them. But then He went on to say, (Read verse 26). Not only would they have the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit would be at work in them. Jesus was telling them that the Holy Spirit was there for their guidance and direction as they sought to serve Him and carry His message to the world.

(Illustration of city dweller and dry cow)

A city dweller moved to a farm and bought a cow. Shortly after he did, the cow went dry. When he reported this fact to a neighbor farmer, the farmer expressed surprise. The city man said he was surprised too. "I can't understand it either, for if ever a person was considerate of an animal, I was of that cow. If I only needed a quart, I took only a quart. If I didn't need any milk, I wouldn't milk her." The farmer then explained that the only way to keep milk flowing is not to take as little as possible from the cow, but to take as much as possible.

This is the principle Jesus was outlining to His disciples. The Holy Spirit was to be in them, and it was His job to direct them into remembering what Jesus did and then doing the work, and to grow in additional teaching which the Holy Spirit would lead them into. They were being told that the indwelling would take place, but of necessity they had to be available for it. And they were as we learn from reading the account in the 2nd chapter of the book of Acts. It is there that we read the very vivid and moving account of what the power of the Holy Spirit can do in the lives of people who put themselves at the disposal of the Holy Spirit. Now although that account records a miraculous event, that indwelling and presence, and power of the Holy Spirit is still available to any and all believers. At the rebirth of a person, or the point when he comes to Christ, the Holy Spirit takes residence in that person's life. But it is the leaning or lack of leaning on the Holy Spirit which determines how indwelt the person is. There are those who give evidence of the Holy Spirit within while many others seem to have a lack of the Spirit. The point is that it is up to us to seek the Spirit's leading for our lives. We need to ask God to direct us through His Spirit and He will.

(Illustration of G. Harding Wood and leading of Holy Spirit)

A preacher named G. Harding Wood tells of a time when he was a vicar in Hampstead, England. He visited the chauffeur at one of the big houses in the area. When he was finished talking to the chauffeur he asked if he could meet his employer. The chauffeur took him to the owner of the estate and rich man and preacher began to have a conversation. The man said he was so rich he didn't know how much money he had. The vicar then asked, "Are you a Christian?" The young man said, "I want to tell you something. I am not religious, I don't go to church and I don't pray. But not long ago I was in the north in a cathedral city and I had an overwhelming desire to pray. I went inside and knelt down; I don't know how long I prayed, but a voice seemed to say to me, 'Go home at once, and I will send somebody to speak to you about Me.' That was three days ago, and I have been waiting."

And God did send somebody. He prompted the preacher to ask about the chauffeur's employer which opened the way for that young man to hear the gospel. And God does that to each of us when He indwells us with His Holy Spirit; and He indwells us with His Holy Spirit when we ~~xxxx~~ ~~xx~~ have the new birth. But how many of us really are following the leading of the Holy Spirit? How many of us instead are sitting back and doing nothing because that is not our job? How many of us are seeking to tell our lost and dying friends and neighbors that they are going to spend eternity in Hell without Christ? How many of us quench the Holy Spirit time after time? God provided His Holy Spirit so we can and could be effective witnesses for Him. He wants us to have that Spirit of truth teaching us all things, and bringing to our remembrance all that Jesus has said to us. His invitation is to first of all accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and then to let His Holy Spirit direct us with that message to others. Will you accept that invitation today?

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 8, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Ray Gamble and Jimmy Shearer
+ + + + +

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 394 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"
*Ascription
*Call to Worship

Leader - "And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying: Hosanna to the Son of David."
People - "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest."

Invocation (In Unison) A King of kings art Thou, O Christ. Thy throne is established in righteousness. Monarchs are swept away by the passing of time and the changing of circumstances; but Thou dost forever reign. We adore Thee as the King of our lives; we worship Thee as our Savior; we rejoice in Thee as friend. Receive now our worship and praise Lord Jesus, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

*Praise: Pastor - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Children's Moment

Hymn No. 249 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You

People - And with Thy Spirit

Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

The Reception of New Members

Anthem: His Unconditional Love"

Scripture: John 14:27

Sermon: "He Left Us: Peace"

*Invitational Hymn No. 595 "Lead On, O King Eternal"

*Closing Chimes

*Benediction

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by

Mr. & Mrs. George Pflugh in memory of daughter Pam.

Mrs. Mid Diefenderfer will greet our members and friends

at the door this morning.

Ushering today are Marilyn Snyder, Vicki Winrader, Reita

DeMask and Kathy Goda.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Sandy Weyand.

Van Driver for the next weeks services will be:

Maundy Thursday - Joe Youngblood

Good Friday - Mike Roper

Easter Sunday - Dick Dally

Attendance last Sunday was 110 with 11 visitors.

Lloyd Link and Ray Isherwood will be visiting the hospital this week.

Hospitalized: Harold Peters and Clarence Diamond in BMH.

Evelyn Tack

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK:

Tuesday - 7 P.M. all Sunday School Teachers to meet.

Thursday - a special Maundy Thursday service including

the observance of the Last Supper - 7:30 P.M.

Friday - Good Friday service at 7:30 P.M. We will

observe the Lord's Supper also.

Today will be the last opportunity to order an Easter Lily.

The price is \$5.50 each. Please drop a note in the

offering plate or stop to see Ginny.

We still have a few Easter Eggs left. They are \$5.00 each

and are Maple Nut and Cherry Nut flavors. They are in

the office if you would like one.

Remember to see Dick Mangel if you would like to place a

reservation for the Easter Sunrise Breakfast. They are

due in by April 10th. Come join us on such a glorious

morning as we celebrate our risen Lord.

We welcome into the church today Dolly Widger, Bob Peters,

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Johnston, and Diana Hoehn. Please take

a minute and make them feel welcome and at home in the

Lord's house.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to

each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your

life. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will

assist you if you desire.

Community Bible Church - Sagamore, Pa. April 12, 1992

Palm Sunday

Prelude

Announcements/Greetings/Joys/Prayer Requests

Ascription

Call to Worship:

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, O YE GATES: AND BE LIFTED UP,
YE EVERLASTING DOORS: AND THE KING OF GLORY SHALL
COME IN.

WHO IS THIS KING OF GLORY?

THE LORD STRONG AND MIGHTY, THE LORD MIGHTY IN BATTLE.

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, O YE GATES: EVEN LIFT THEM UP,

YE EVERLASTING DOORS: AND THE KING OF GLORY SHALL COME IN.

WHO IS THIS KING OF GLORY?

THE LORD OF HOSTS, HE IS THE KING OF GLORY.

*Hymn

Offering/Prayer

*Doxology

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn

Scripture: John 14:27

sermon: "He Left Us: Peace" - St. Paul's Butler 4/8/90

*Hymn

*Benediction

*Postlude

WIS:KEN

DAVE

ROLY FAMILY

LORENZO FAMILY

REI HINES

Wat Ur reactin aftr Xmas?

discips & parad & now letdwn

Mt 21:6-11 - READ

vs 27/1=Prince of Peace - Isa

Peac on erth - anpls at birth

19:38 - READ- BLESSD R TH/KING THAT CUMETH IN TH/NSME OF THE
Jeru-city of Peace LORD;PEAC IN HVN & GLORY IN TH/HIGHEST.
donky - King in peace

Shalom - Heb

Eirene - Grk

Salutatin/bendictin - How R U

(Ilus old man & U dont care how I am)

Hav gud day=Dont tel me wat kind day 2hav

Vs 27B

Rom 5:1

Phil 4:7

Rom - with G

Phil - Of G

(Ilus Eric Barker & famly lost at sea)

Vs 27

"He Left US: Peace"

Scripture: John 14:27

What is Ur reactin day after Xmas? Wat R Ur feelings?

as an adul U may expres feelings of relief;but if U R a child, (litrly,or at hart),U may expres sens of disapointment

Th/reasnrther is bildup lead 2ward day,& wen finly arivs it seems 2go so fast it gon B4 We kno it

discips of Js bin tol by Him an event was go 2tak plac th/day folo th/Sabath B4 th/Pasovr & th/discips wer giv insturctins 2m necessary preps 4this

Mt record in chap 21:6-11 - READ THIS

But that was Sundy,& this was Thurd & that wondrful even just a memry of brief hapnes had exper w/Him

Now He inform wudB takn fr/them;& wudB killd

He tryd 2spk words of comf 2them, but wer they hear wat He say His words of B all-suff 4ther needs;th/cum in? ther livs of noth: persn jus lik Himself;& His prom this Comfrtr wud guid & direc them mus hav seemd lik so many empty words/phrases

How cud they feel anyth but confusin & frustratin???

But Js,awar ther frustratd mixd up feels sed=vs 27A

"Oh Grt," they mus bin think - "Now He talk bout Peace

How can we hav any Peace w/all this hang ovr heds?????

But they wer mis whol pt wat He say & wat takn plac thus far Th/proph Isa had sed Mesiah wudb Calld-Th/Princ of Peace at birth,angls sang-Glory 2-G in th/highes,& on erth,Peace gudwil 2ward men.

Thez discips knu th/Scips spk bout Mesiah,& they probly priv 2info concern birth at Beth

& jus few day ago mus hav missd whol pt of that as wel

wen Js cam in? city,nam of Jerus=City of Peace

his Rid thru sts on donky identify who He was

A King,rid on donky cam in peace-if hors it ment war

says=Lk 19:38 - READ

surely they herd thez words as wel

so wen Js sed was lv them His peac,why wudnt they undrstan???

or why cudnt they undrstan it?

As think bout this need undrstan words=Peac wh/Js use ~~was~~was

Shalom in Heb & Eirene in Grk

both word ment sam thing-Shalom/Eirene ment Peace

it was usd as salutatn or bendictin

upon meet sumone,custmary 2says=Shalom/Eirene;& wen lv sumone 2sa;

Shalom/Eirene

word simlar 2=How R U? Now if U considr phras,& cp its mean

2day U can perhap C wh discips wer unmovd by wat Js say

How R U? is quit oftn empty phras & mean nuth & many tims the

persn inquir=How R U? completly unconcrnd bout how persn is

(Ilus visit hospitr & old man & U dont care how I am)

Wen U ask sumone=How R U? do u really care???

Shalom may hav 2cum lik nothr phras toss rnd 2day=Hav gud day!!

Do we really mean it wen say it,or do say Bcuz evrone els says???

Wen sumone say 2me,I feel lik say wat bumpr stikr says= Dont 2/

tel me wat kind of day 2hav

I'm go 2hav gud day,evrday & nobody need tel me that

evr day is gud day wen U R walk w/th/Lord

Js nct only say was lv them His Shalom/Peace but=Vs 27B-READ

perhap Js was say greetin los all mean lik we sed,& He no mean

lik worl ment it

at may bin cae, but I Bliev went much 4thr than that

Worl cudnt giv kind peac G can giv

P wrot Rom 5:1, & Phil 4:7 - READ THEZ

In Rom it=Peac WITH G,& Phil it Peac OF G & in both it is peac

wh/canot cum any othr way, but fr/G,Bcuz th/worl canot giv this

peac Bcuz it duznt hav it

man,w/out Js Xp is at war w/G & his very sinful lif keep Him

fr/relatship w/G & he sep fr/Him

but wen man cums 2-G thru Js Xp he then has persnl relatship

w/G & then ther is peac

th/peac treaty was bot & pd 4 w/very lifblud Js Xp

this wat P say in Romn lettr-B jusfyd,made rt w/G,we hav peac

thru Js Xp

In Phil P lk this peac fr/nothr angl

P say ther is peac only cum fr/G wh/worl canot undrst,or by

logicl think wil bring comf 2Blievr hart & mind

& agin,this only posibl thru relatship w/Js Xp

So how can we aply 2our livs?

Wat duz Js mean wen He says He givs us His peac?

Wat is P say bout Peac of G?

(Ilus Eric Barker & lose whol famly at sea)

Wat was it enabl him 2liv abuv circums in spit ovrwelm grief???

It was this Peace With God

& this only peac can hav in this lif

we all hav probs/trubl, but ~~wancan~~ hav peac in midst them

if hav persnl relatship w/G

this precisely wat Js try tel discips

duz evrday seem lik constan strugl w/no ansrs?

Do U always seem 2B swim upstream & mak no hedway???

R U ovrwelm by Ur probs?

If U R ther only one way 2resolv all that,& that is 2cum 2

th/Sav & seek His peac

He sed=(Read vs 27)

"He Left Us: Peace"

Scripture: John 14:27

What is your reaction the day after Christmas? What are your feelings? If you are an adult you may well express a sense of relief. But if you are a child, (literally, or at heart), you may express a sense of disappointment. The reason - there is a buildup leading toward the day and when the day finally arrives, it seems to go so fast that it's gone before it can be completely enjoyed. The disciples of Jesus had been told by Him that an event was going to take place the day following the Sabbath Day.~~which was the day~~ On this First day of the week, in the week which they would celebrate the Passover the Disciples were given instructions to make the necessary preparations for this special event. Matthew records this in the 21st chapter of his Gospel and we read, (read verses 6-11). But that was Sunday, and this was Thursday and that wonderful event was just a memory of the brief happiness they had experienced with Him. Now, He had informed them He was going to be ~~killed~~ taken away from them, and be killed. He had tried to speak words of comfort to them, but were they hearing what He was saying? His words of being all-sufficient for their needs; the coming into their lives of another person just like Himself; and His promise that this "Comforter" would guide and direct them must have seemed like so many empty words and phrases. How could they possibly feel anything but confusion and frustration?

But Jesus was aware of their frustrated and mixed up feelings. So He said to them, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you," verse 27A.

"Oh great," they must have been thinking. ~~Now~~ "Now He is talking about peace. How can we possibly have any peace with all of this hanging over our heads?" But they were missing the whole point of what He was saying and what had taken place thus far. The prophet Isaiah had said of the Messiah that He would be called, "The Prince of Peace." At the birth of Jesus the angels sang of "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men." These disciples knew the Scriptures speaking about the Messiah; and they were probably privileged to the information concerning His birth in Bethlehem. And just a few days ago when the parade in Jerusalem took place they must have missed the whole point of that as well. When Jesus came into Jerusalem, the very name of the city was, "The city of Peace." His ride through the street on a donkey was a giveaway of who and what He was. A king as He was called, riding on a donkey, came in peace. If he rode a horse, he was a conqueror. Luke records in his account of the parade through Jerusalem that the people shouted, "Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: PEACE in heaven, and glory in the highest," Luke 19:38.

Surely they had heard these words as well. So when Jesus said He was leaving them "His Peace," why wouldn't they understand it? Or why couldn't they understand it?

As we think about this we need to understand that the word "Peace" which Jesus was using, meant, "Shalom," in Hebrew, and Eirene in Greek. Both words meant exactly the same thing. Shalom, or Eirene mean "Peace," and the word was used as a salutation, and as a benediction. Upon meeting someone it was customary to say "Shalom." And when taking leave of someone it was customary to say "Shalom." The word is similar to our use of the term, "How are you?" Now if you consider that phrase and compare its meaning today, you can perhaps see why the disciples were rather unmoved by what Jesus was saying. The phrase "How are you?" is quite often an

empty phrase which means nothing. Many times the person inquiring, "How are you?" is completely unconcerned about how the person is. I was visiting the hospital not too long ago and in the room where the person I went to see was an old man tied in his bed. The other person was out of the room and I wrote a note and put it on the bedtable and looked at the old man, who was looking rather sad, and I asked him, "How are you?" And he answered, "You don't care how I am." And I told him I did care, or I wouldn't have asked. He didn't want me to pray with him, but I did in my heart. When you ask someone, "How are you?" do you really care? Shalom may have become like another phrase we toss around today such as, "Have a good day." Do we really mean that when we say it, or is it just something that everyone is saying? I feel like answering like the bumper sticker I saw, "Don't tell me what kind of day to have!" I'm going to have a good day, everyday, and nobody needs to tell me that. Every day is a good day when you are walking with the Lord.

But Jesus went on to say ~~xxx~~ not only that He was leaving them, "His Shalom," or, "His peace," but He said, "Not as the world giveth, give I unto you," verse 27B.

Perhaps He was saying just exactly what we have said that the greeting had lost all meaning and purpose and Jesus said He didn't mean it like the world meant it. That may have been the case, but I believe it went much further than that. The world couldn't give the kind of peace that God can give. Paul wrote about this in his letter to the Romans and in the 5th chapter the first verse he said, "Wherefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

And in his letter to the church in Philippi He wrote in the 4th chapter the 7th verse, "And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

In Romans it is "peace WITH God," and in Philippians it is, "the peace OF God." In both instances it is a peace which cannot come in any other way, but only from God. The world cannot give this peace because it doesn't have it. Man, without Jesus Christ, is at war with God. His very sinful life keeps him from a relationship with God and he is separated from Him. But when a man comes to God through Jesus Christ, he then has a personal relationship with God and then there is peace. The peace treaty was bought and paid for with the very lifeblood of Jesus Christ. This is what Paul is saying in his Roman letter. "Being justified," or "made right" with God, "we have peace WITH God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

In Philippians Paul looks at that peace from another angle. Paul is saying that there is a PEACE that comes only from God, which cannot be understood by the world, or by logical thinking, will bring comfort to a believer's heart and mind. And again, this is only possible through a relationship with Jesus Christ.. So how can we apply this to our lives? What does Jesus mean when He says He gives us His peace? What is Paul saying about the "Peace OF God?"

(Illustration of Eric Barker and his family lost at sea)

Eric Barker was a missionary from Great Britain who spent over 50 years in Portugal preaching the Gospel. During World War II, the situation became so critical that he was advised to send his wife and 8 children back to England for safety. He took that advice and evacuated not only his family, but his sister and her three children also left on the same ship. Barker remained behind to clear up some missionary matters. The Sunday after his loved ones had left, he stood before his congregation and announced, "I've just received word that all my family have arrived safely home." He then proceeded with the service as usual.

Later, the full meaning of what he had said became known to the people. A German submarine had torpedoed the ship, and everyone on board had drowned. Barker had been given a telegram before the service, telling him that his entire family ~~had~~ was dead. But Barker knew that each of his family was a believer and he could say with assurance they had reached home safely.

What was it that enabled him to live above his circumstances, ~~and~~ in spite of his overwhelming grief? It was this "Peace" of God. And this is the only peace we can truly have in this life. We all have problems and troubles, but we can have Peace in the midst of them if we have that personal relationship with God. This is precisely what Jesus was trying to tell His disciples.

Does every day seem like a constant struggle with no answers? Do you always seem to be swimming upstream and not making any headway? Are you overwhelmed by your problems? If you are, there is only one way to resolve all of that and that is to come to the Savior and seek His peace. He said, "Peace I leave with you, My peace, I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 12, 1990
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Narrator, Mr. Arthur Snyder

+ + + + +
ORDER OF CELEBRATION

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

*Opening Hymn No. 260 "And Can It Be That I Should Gain?"

*Ascription

Introductory Narration

Disciples Dialogue

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

*Offering Prayer

Communion Hymn No. 246 "Man of Sorrows," What a Name!"

Blessing of the Bread

Distribution of the Bread

Blessing of the Cup

Distribution of the Cup

Thanksgiving Prayer

Closing Hymn No. 244 "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners"

Closing Narration

Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

Mrs. Phyllis Tait will greet our members and friends at the door this evening.

Our Disciples will be serving as Ushers and serving the Lord's Supper.

Nursery will be provided tonight by Mrs. Bonnie Gannon.

Following the service this evening, a reception for our new and old members will be held in Rehoboth Hall. This is an opportunity to introduce yourself and become friends. This is also an opportunity for you to meet the "Disciples."

Van Driver for Good Friday is Mike Roper.

Van Driver for Easter Sunday is Dick Dally.

GOOD FRIDAY service will be held at 7:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary. The Lord's Supper will also be observed.

EASTER SUNRISE BREAKFAST will be held immediately following the Sunrise Service at 6:30 A.M. on Sunday morning. This is done by reservations, so please see Dick Mangel if you would like to come. This will allow us time to make adequate preparations. Don't forget to bring your rolls if you have said you will donate them. See you at 6:30 A.M. !!!!!

"THE DISCIPLES"

Andrew - Jim Gannon

Bartholomew - Dick Mangel

James - Lloyd Link

James the less - Mike McDonald

John - Mike Roper

Judas - Bob Weisenstein

Matthew - Howdy Bolam

Matthias - Art Snyder

Peter - Rick Vinroe

Philip - Paul Riemer

Thaddeus - Marty Henry

Thomas - Bill Snyder

Simon the Zealot - Butch Andrews

Jesus - Rev. Link

WELCOME & INVITE ALL TO TAKE COMM.
THANK EVERYONE WHO HELPED.

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

April 13, 1990

(Please enter and leave the service only during the ushering intervals or while the congregation is singing the hymns.)

SCENES FROM THE CRUCIFIXION

The Organ Prelude Mrs. Marilyn Stephenson

12:00 - THE CALL TO WORSHIP

The Call to Worship Rev. Dr. J. Bruce Byers

The Prayer of Invocation Rev. Dr. J. Bruce Byers

*Thy Hymn No. 194 "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

12:05 - JESUS IN GETHSEMANE
(Prayer)

The Scripture Reading Matthew 26:36-46
Rev. Paul Inks

Solo Lewis Marra

The Meditation Rev. Douglas Miller

The Prayer Rev. Douglas Miller

*The Hymn No. 394 "In The Hour of Trial"

12:30 - JESUS TAKEN CAPTIVE
(Kiss, Betrayal and Arrest)

The Scripture Reading Matthew 26:47-56
Rev. Father Ettore DeNapoli

Solo Nancy Gillespie

The Meditation Rev. Ralph Link

The Prayer Rev. Ralph Link

*The Hymn No. 202 "There Is A Green Hill Far Away"

Organist - Joyce Gray

12:55 - JESUS BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN AND PILATE
(Judgment Seat)

The Scripture Reading Luke 22:63-71; John 19:4-11
Rev. Father Tom Wilson

Solo Jay Goettler

The Meditation Rev. James Campbell

The Prayer Rev. James Campbell

*The Hymn No. 195 "In The Cross of Christ I Glory"

1:20 - JESUS MOCKED BY THE SOLDIERS
(Crown of Thorns)

The Scripture Reading Matthew 27:27-31; 26:30-35,50-75
Rev. Dennis Moore

Solo Ruth Anderson

The Meditation Rev. Roger Shaffer

The Prayer Rev. Roger Shaffer

*The Hymn No. 400 "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

1:45 - JESUS ON THE ROAD TO GOLGOTHA
(Carrying The Cross)

The Scripture Reading Luke 23:26-33; Mark 8:34
Rev. Dennis Molnar

Solo Beth Taylor

The Meditation Rev. Robert Huber

The Prayer Rev. Robert Huber

*The Hymn No. 198 "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"

Organist - Peggy McGuirk

2:10 - JESUS' CRUCIFIXION

The Scripture Reading John 19:23-30
Rev. Kenneth C. Hall

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - MARCH 28, 1997
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - 7:00 P.M.

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOT FESTIVE OCCASION
INVITE ALL TO PARTAKE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE - 7:00 AM SUNDAY
BREAKFAST FOLLOWING SERVICE
EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 AM
(INVITE TO ALL SERVICES
WELCOME VISITORS

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
EVENING PRAYER
HYMN

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 26:47-56
SERMON: "JESUS TAKEN CAPTIVE"
COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - 4/13/90

XXXXXX

THE LORD'S SUPPER
/HN
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE

SCRIP: MT 26:47-56

(ILUS UNKNO WRITER PEN LINES BOUT JS & HIS CUP & GIV THANKS)

VS 42=PRAYR & ACPT CUP - KNU WAT HAD 2DO & ALSO
VS 46= KNU WAT WAS GO 2TAK PLACE
VS 47=GRT MULTITUD - MOONLIT NITE PROB,BOUT 100 MEN
SWORDS/STAVS=THEY WER ARMED,MAY THOT JS WUD RESIST
VS 48=WAT WAS MOTIV OF JUDA? - HE CHOS BETRAY IN DECEIV MANNR
CUSTMARY GREET BLUV RABBI W/KISS & ANYONE C JUDA DO SO NO THINK
ANYTHING WRONG IN THAT ACT

BUT THIS WAS SIGN OF BTRAYAL
VS 49=KISS IN GRK=KIS REPEATDLY,PASINATLY,FERVENTLY -SIGN OF LUV
HOW GUD JUDAS DO THIS?? AFFECTIN

IF EVR HAD TRUSTD FREND TURN AGIN U CAN PERHAPS UNDRSTAN THIS
HERE FREND BIN W/HIM 3YRS,NOW TRAITOR

SOMEONE HAD DO DASTRDLY DEED,BUT NO NEED 2B OF INNR CIRCL
HIS NAM 4EVR FORGED 2THOT F BTRAYAL -"A JUDAS"

VS 50A-MT GIV GUD IDEA HOW BTRAYAL AFFECT JS
EVRN THO HE AN ENMY, JS CAL HIM "FREND"
(EXPL LUVING,COMPASNAT LK JS MUS HAV GIVN JUDAS)

VS 50B=JS IS ARESTED

VS 51=MT NO SAY WHO IS,JN NAMES HIM AS PETER

HERE CONTRAST THIS SCRIP - JUDAS SUPOS LOYAL FREND - BTRAY,
PETER LOYAL FREND & STANDUP FOR JS

PETER LIVUP TO BOAST OF NOT DESERT JS

VS 52-54=JS KNU ALL THIS PART HIS F'S PLAN - GOD'S PLAN
JS HAD BELT W/TRAITR & NOW MUS DEAL W/ONE WHO LUV OVERZELOUSLY

THIS SCRIP PT OUT EXTREMES 2DISCIPS OF JS

VS 56=SUMS UP ALL OF THIS - THEY FLED,DESERTD HIM

ONE PT BOUT THIS CONCERNS LOVLTY - DISCIPLESHIP

TWO DISCIPS,EA ACT IN DIFFRENT WAYS

TH' EXAMPL GIV US CHANC LK AT OURSELVS & TO ASK SELVS QUESTIN

"WAT IS MY COMMITMENT?"

HAV I REJECTD HIM AFTR POLO A WHILE?

OR HAV I FOLLOWD,LOOKING AT MY GUD WORKS AS EVIDENC MY COMIT?

(ILUS HENRY THOREAU & RALPH WALDO EMERSON)

THIS IS TH/QUESTIN WE SHUD ASK OURSELVS 2NITE

WAT R U DOING OUT THERE?

MAY IT NOT BEED OF US, THEN ALL HIS DISCIPLES 4SOOK HIM & FLED

Sumone wrot:

THE MOCKRY OF A TRIAL, THE STINGING SLAP OF HIS FACE BY AN ENRAGED ROMAN OFFICER, THE UNJUST SCOURGING BY AN UNMERCIFUL WHIPMASTER, BEING BUFFETED BY BIGOTS, BEING BURDENED BY BRUISES, BEING DRESSED IN MOCK ROYALTY, AND BEING CROWNED WITH A DEGRADING DIADEM OF THORNS WERE ALL IN THE CUP OF JESUS. AND YET, HE TOOK THE CUP AND GAVE THANKS

Prayr & acpt cup & knu wat 2cum =VS 46

nite & procesin Kidron Vally

100 or so

VS 47=Armed

VS 48=Wat motiv of Jud?

custmary 4discip/folowr Bluv Rabbi greet w/kiss

VS 49=KISSED in Grk=2KIS REPEATEDLY, PASINATLY, FERVENTLY

How cud Jud do this???

VS 50A=think Js

now C oposit=1st traitr, then one expres luv bizar mannr

VS 51=Jn identfy as Petr

VSS 52-54

C extremes of discips & VS 56 sumup

Scrip expres LOYLTY - DISCIPLSHIP

WAT IS MY COMIT?

HAV I REJECT HIM AFTR FOLO 4 AWHIL??

OR HAV I FOLO SEEK ONLY 2 HAV MY GUD WORKS SHO MY COMIT???

(Ilus Henry Thoreau & Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Emerson=WHY HENRY, WAT R U DOING IN THERE?

THOREAU=NAY, RALPH, TH/QUESTIN IS, 'WAT R U DOING OUT THERE?'

th) in sanc, thoz in listn audienc=WAT R U DO OUT THER???

h) it noy B sed of any of us=THEN ALL TH/DISCIPS 4SUK HEM & FLED

Good Friday 12:30

Scripture: Matthew 26:47-56

Unkno authr wrot:

TH/MOCKRY OF A TRIAL, TH/STING SLAP OF HIS FAC BY AN ENRAGED ROMAN OFFICER, TH/UNJUS SCOURG BY AN UNMERCIFUL WHIPMASTER, BEING BUFFETED BY BIGOTS, BEING BURND BY BRUISES, BEING DRESSED IN MCK ROYLTY, BEING CROWNED W/A DEGRADING DIADEM OF THORNS WER ALL IN THE CUP OF XP. & YET, HE TOOK TH/CUP & GAV THANKS

Js jus conclud pra r in gardn wher had ask cup of suffr B takn fr/Him if posib

had conclud prayr w/words that acpt watevr Fathr ask of Him so He wil 2tak cup as writr expres, but knu imed folo prayr, all events lead 2subsequen trial/deth wudB proceed by hand of trustd frend turn fr/Him & tol discips=VS 46-READ

altho prob brite moonlit nite, a procesin of men cudB seen cum dwn Kidron Vally & near th/gardn in wh/Js & discips wer

Th/exac numbr peo cam 2arest Js is not kno but it thot 2B 100 xxxxxx if not mor

naturly, ther intrusin in2 th/gardn brok th/comf of silenc Js & discips had sot not only on this nite, but othrs as wel

Mt tel us=VS 47 - thez peo wer armed

evid they expec Js 2resis & they wer prepd

We then read=VS 48

wat wer motivs of Judas? This ques bin ask ovr & ovr & no ansr

Watevr motivs wer, Jud choz Btray Js in very deceiv mannr

It custmary 4 a discip or folowr of Bluvd Rabbi 2greet w/kiss

Anyone observ greet of Jud may no thot twic bout this greet

but w/lrg conting peo w/him it was 4warn of ulterior motiv

along w/this fac Mt tel us=VS 49

word usd 4-KISSD in Grk means=2kis repeatedly, pasinatly, fervntly

it one thing 2giv one kis as sign of Btrayl, but quit nothr 2kis

one being Btrayd repeatdly

th) repeatd kis was sign of deep lub & afectin

h) cud Jud do this?

anyone who has had a trustd frend turn agin then can sens sum

what th/feel Js mus hav had

here was man He had work w/for 3yrs

its tru sumone had 2perf th/sastrdly deed & turn Js ovr 2 the

authoritys so that Scrip concern Mesiah cudB fulfil

but it didnt hav 2B one of His innr circl

4watevr reasn, or purp tho, Jud choz 2Btray Js in such mannr, that

fr/that day 2this his nam is 4evr 4rgd 2 th/thot of Btrayl

sumone who turns agin a frend is calld A JUDAS

We get a gud idea how this Btrayl afec Js fr/how Mt record His

adres 2 Judas=VS 50A

evn tho cam as enmy pretend 2B frend, Js cal him "frend"

we dont read it here, but can U pictur in Ur minds ey th/luving,

compasinat gaz of Js, lk in2 th/face of this one who sot 2hav

Him killd?

Can U pictur th/hurt it mus hav causd Him?

& yet, ~~ix~~ w/that hurt, that anguish, He stil choz 2luv Jud 2/
in th/midst his trechry
but this portin Scrip not only giv glimps of traitr, but C sumone
who sot 2expres his luv in rathr bizar mann
vs 51 - Mt no idenfy him, but Jn his Gospl say it Peter
Petr bin th/one at meal they jus finish who sed wud not desert
J regardless wat anyone did
was try 2liv up 2his boast
his motiv one of luv, but his method one wh/Js rejectd
Js had jus delt verbly w/traitr, & now mus deal w/one who luvd
Him rathr ovzelusly
So sed 2him-VSS 52-54
We C 2extrems in thez 2discips & clos sentenc this Scrip sums x
all up rathr wel - VS 56
One of pts this partic Scrip maks ~~ix~~ concerns loylty & discipship
Ther is th/complet rejectin by Jud & th/ovzelus reactin of Petr
both R extrems
but they gif us chanc 2 lk our livs & 2ask, "Wat is my Comit?"
Hav I rejectd Him aftr folo 2x 4 awhile?
Or hav I followd seeking only 2hav my gud works sho my comit?
(Ilus Henry Thoreau & Ralph Waldo Emerson)
That is questin ea us shud ask selvs 2day
thoz us in this sanctuary & thoz in listn audienc =WAT R U DO
OUT THER???

May it not B sed of ~~ix~~ any of us=THEN ALL TH/DISCIPS 4SUK HIM &
FLED

Good Friday: April 13, 1990

12:30 - Jesus Taken Captive
Scripture: Matthew 26:47-56

An unknown writer penned the lines:

"The mockery of a trial, the stinging slap of His face by an enraged Roman officer, the unjust scourging by an unmerciful whipmaster, being buffeted by bigots, being burdened by bruises, being dressed in mock royalty, and being crowned with a degrading diadem of thorns were all in the cup of ~~Jesus~~ Christ. And yet, He took the cup and gave thanks."

Jesus had just concluded His prayer in the garden where He had asked that this cup of suffering be taken from Him if it was possible. He had concluded His prayer by accepting whatever His Father wanted of Him. So He was willing to take the cup as the writer expressed. But immediately following His prayer He knew that all of the events leading up to his subsequent trial and ~~xxxxxxx~~ death would be preceded by the hand of a trusted friend turning from Him. He told His disciples, "Arise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray Me," verses 46.

Although it was probably a bright, moonlit night, a procession of men could be seen coming down into the Kidron Valley and nearing the Garden in which Jesus and His disciples were. The exact number of people who came to arrest Jesus is not known but it is thought that it was probably a hundred if not more. Naturally, their intrusion into the garden broke the ~~xxxxxx~~ comfort of silence Jesus and His disciples had sought not only on this night but on other occasions as well. Matthew tells us, (read verse 47). These people were armed. Evidently they expected Jesus to resist and they were prepared. Matthew then tells us, "Now he that betrayed Him gave them a sign, saying, 'Whomever I shall kiss, that same is He: hold Him fast,'" vs 48. What were the motives of Judas? This question has been asked over and over and there is no answer. Whatever those motives were, Judas chose to betray Jesus in a very deceiving manner. It was customary for a disciples or follower of a beloved Rabbi to greet him with a kiss. Anyone observing the greeting of Judas may not have thought twice about this greeting. But with the large contingent of people with him it was a forewarning of an ulterior motive. But along with that fact is that Matthew tells us, "And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, 'Hail, Master;' and kissed Him," verse 49.

The word used here for "Kissed," in Greek means to "kiss repeatedly, passionately, fervently." It is one thing to give one kiss as a sign of betrayal, but it is quite another to kiss the one being betrayed repeatedly. The repeated kissing was a sign of deep affection and love. How could Judas do this? Anyone who has had a trusted and beloved friend turn against you, can sense ~~xxxxxx~~ somewhat the feeling that Jesus must have had. Here was a man he had worked with for three years. It's true that someone had to perform the dastardly deed and turn Jesus over to the authorities so that the Scripture concerning the Messiah could be fulfilled. But it didn't have to be one of His inner circle. For whatever reason, or purpose though, Judas chose to betray Jesus in such a manner that from that day to this his name is forever forged to the thought of betrayal. Someone who turns against a friend is called "A Judas."

But we not only see in this scripture a traitor, we see someone who sought to express his love although he did it in a rather bizarre manner.

~~after Jesus had been seized~~ We can get a good idea of how this betrayal affected Jesus from how Matthew records His address to Judas. We read that Jesus asked, "Friend, wherefore art thou come?", verse 50A.

Even though he came as an enemy pretending to be a friend, Jesus calls him "Friend." We don't read it here, but can't you picture in your mind's eye the loving, compassionate gaze of Jesus looking into the face of this one who sought to have Him killed. Can you picture the hurt it must have caused Him? And yet, with that hurt, that anguish, He still chose to love Judas in the midst of his treachery.

But this portion of Scripture not only gives us a glimpse of a traitor, but we see someone who sought to express his love although he did it in a rather bizarre manner.

Matthew tells us, "And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear," vs 51.

The Apostle John records in his Gospel that this was Peter. Peter had been the one at the meal they had just finished who had said that he would not desert Jesus regardless of what anyone else did. Here he was trying to live up to his boasting. His motive was one of love, but his method was one which Jesus rejected. Jesus had just dealt verbally with a traitor, and now He must deal with one who loved Him rather overzealously. So Jesus said to him, "Put again, thy sword into its place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. Thinkest thou that I cannot pray the Father and He shall presently give Me more than twelve legions of angels? But how ~~xxx~~ then shall the Scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it might be?," verses 52-54.

We see the two extremes in these two disciples and the closing sentence of this Scripture sums all of this up rather well. We read, "Then all the disciples forsook Him, and fled," vs 56. One of the points ~~of this particular Scripture~~ which this particular Scripture makes concerns loyalty and discipleship. There is the complete rejection by Judas and the over zealous reaction of Peter. Both are extremes. But they give us a chance to look at our lives and to ask "What is my commitment?" Have I rejected Him after following for awhile? Or have I followed seeking only to have my good works show forth my commitment.

(Illustration of Henry Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson)

In the 19th century Henry Thoreau once went to jail rather than pay his poll tax to a New England state which supported slavery. Ralph Waldo Emerson his very good friend, heard that Thoreau was in jail and went to visit him. Peering through the bars, he exclaimed, "Why Henry, what are you doing in there?" Henry Thoreau answered, "Nay, Ralph, the question is, 'What are you doing out there?'"

That is the question each of us should ask ourselves today. Those of us in this sanctuary, and those in the listening audience, "What are you doing out there?" May it not be said of any of us, "Then all the disciples forsook Him, and fled."

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 13, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP
"GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE"

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

*Ascription

*Processional Hymn No. 258 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

*Call to Worship:

Leader - God commendeth His love toward us, in that,
while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
People - Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world!

*Invocation (In Unison) Almighty God, our Father, in this
hour of solemn remembrance, we acknowledge with
sorrow and shame that our sins are such as sent
our Lord to the cross. We come beseeching Thee
mercifully to guide us in our meditations,
supplications, and prayers and to dispose the
hearts and minds of all men everywhere toward
the attainment of everlasting salvation,
through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Scripture of Preparation - Matthew 26: 17-25

Anthem: "Lord, Let Me Walk" - featured voices of
Lloyd Link & Bonnie Gannon

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

*Offering Prayer

Communion Hymn No. 251 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

*Consecration of the Elements

Distribution of the Bread

Matthew 26:26

Distribution of the Cup

Matthew 26:27-28

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Anthem: "O Come and Mourn"

The Trial - Matthew 27: 1-2, 11-26 - RALPH

Hymn No. 122 Verses 1 and 3

The Sentence Enforced - Matthew 27:27-38 - B+B

Hymn No. 253 Verses 1 and 3

The Execution Completed - Matthew 27:39-54 - RALPH

*Hymn No. 270 "I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary"

*Benediction - RALPH

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

Mrs. Millie Wachsmuth will greet our members and guests
at the door this evening.

Nursery will be provided tonight by Mrs. Melanie Merrison
and daughters.

Van Driver for Easter Sunday will be Dick Dally.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AND BREAKFAST - 6:30 A.M. in

Rehoboth Hall. Men will be cooking breakfast that day.

Please don't forget to bring in the rolls that you

are donating. See you then!

We need two volunteers to sit in the Nursery on Sunday.

Please take a minute and see Bonnie Gannon. We realize

that each must take their turn, so we are asking that

you volunteer now.

Welcome to Lord's Supper may partake if believer
please sign communion cards & register in red book

Elders/Deacons training classes to start Tuesday
April 17, 7:00 P.M.

LET'S LEAVE IN SILENCE & PRAY FOR
REMEM OF THIS DAY & EVENTS.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 15, 1990

Rev. John Snyder, Guest Speaker
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music

+ + + + +
EASTER SUNRISE ORDER OF WORSHIP 6:30 A.M.

Prelude

*Ascription

*Call to Worship:

Pastor - Christ is risen!

People - He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Pastor - The Lord God omnipotent reigns! To the King,
immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor
and glory, forever and ever!
Come, let us worship God, and to Him let
us pray.

*Invocation: Everliving God, glorious is Thy name!
Majestic is the Good News! Our life has
been changed forever. Thy light of Easter
dispels the darkness of our doubts. Thy
power in love changes our reliance. Thy
vindication of Jesus reassures our faith.
Hallelujah, praise Thy Holy name. Amen.

*Hymn of Celebration: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave, Alleluia!

Loves redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!
Christ hath opened Paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!!
Amen.

Easter Morning Prayer

Hymn "He Lives"

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today!
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him He's always near.

In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair;
I know that He is leading through all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing will come at last.

Rejoice, Rejoice, O Christians, life up your voice and sing
Eternal Hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find,
None other is so loving, so good and kind.

Chorus:

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's
narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart,
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my
heart!

Scripture: John 20: 1-16

Sermon: "God Has His Day"

*Hymn "Because He Lives"

God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus,
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy He gives,
But greater still the calm assurance,
This child should face uncertain days because He lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.

Chorus:

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives all fear is gone,
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

*Benediction

WELCOME

JOHN SNYDER - YOUNGSTOWN - HOWARD JONES

NORMAN TINKER

FREE WILL OFFERING

EASTER
SUNRISE
SERVICE



Alleluia!
JESUS IS ALIVE!

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 15, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale, Minister of Music
Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist
Acolytes: Nicole Merrison

+ + + + +
EASTER SUNDAY 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys

Prayer Requests

*Processional Hymn No. 289 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

*Ascription

*Invocation: (In Unison) Righteous God, our Father, we come reverently to this place as worshipers, not as spectators; to bow before Thee, not to see or be seen; not to parade ourselves outwardly, but to adorn ourselves inwardly with beauty. May our words and actions reflect the joy of this Resurrection morning as we come in our risen Savior's name. Amen.

Easter Anthem: "Celebrate the Victory"

Easter Prayer

Easter Offering (all envelopes, love loaves, loose offering, etc. are to be brought forward at this time and placed in the receptacles at the Chancel rail. The Ushers will assist.)

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

*Dedication of Love Loaves and Offerings

Easter Anthem: "Majesty"

Scripture: Matthew 28: 1-8

Sermon: "Forever Empty"

*Closing Hymn No. 292 "Because He Lives"

*Closing Chimes

*Benediction

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

Mr. & Mrs. Budd Pedersen will greet our members and guests at the door on this most glorious morning.

Serving as Ushers today are Chris Pedersen, Wendy Norman, John Penrod and Mike Kay.

Nursery will be provided today.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Marty Henry.

Attendance last Sunday was 133 with 13 visitors.

Rick Vinroe and Art Snyder will be visiting the hospital this week.

> Hospitalized: Dutch Bolam in West Penn - Pittsburgh

+ + + + + Jane Massart
BMH

HAPPY EASTER ! ! ! ! !

Love Loaves this morning during offering. Bring all offerings forward at that time.

Want to thank everyone who helped in any way during this Lenten season.

and Choir, Dale for special music; Rol for his faithful music on different occasions special renditions, the men for portraying the Last Supper, & for breakfast this AM. The several women behind the scenes for props, makeup, etc. ushers, sound people, & for you faithful worshipers

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - APRIL 7, 1996
~~11:00 AM~~ 9:30 A.M.

Prelude

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

CONG DINNER/MEETING APRIL 21, AFTER CHURCH

OFFERING - GIVE/NO GIVE

PAST / FAIRMAN THIS WK

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

EASTER PRAYER

HYMN

DEDICATION OF NEW HYMNALS

SCRIPTURE: "FOREVER EMPTY"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 4/15/90

SERMON: MATTHEW 28:1-8

*HYMN

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

FLORENCE

LAIRD

ETHEL

THIS MORNING WE HUMBLY AND GRATEFULLY ACCEPT AND ACKNOWLEDGE THIS GIFT OF NEW HYMNALS FOR THE CHURCH. THEY HAVE BEEN GRACIOUSLY PROVIDED FOR OUR USE BY KATHY AND BILL MORGAN IN LOVING MEMORY OF PECK FAIRMAN AND ED FAIRMAN.

AS WE LIFT OUR VOICES IN PRAISE TO ALMIGHTY GOD USING THESE HYMNALS MAY THE WORDS AND MUSIC REMIND US OF THE EARTHLY PILGRIMAGE WE SHARED WITH PECK AND ED. GOD HAS CALLED THEM FROM THIS LIFE TO LIFE EVERLASTING. AS THEY SERVED IN THIS CONGREGATION SO MAY WE BE INSPIRED TO SERVE AS WELL.

LET OUR WORSHIP AND PRAISE BE LIFTED TO NEW HEIGHTS BEING MOTIVATED BY THE MUSIC GOD HAS BROUGHT FORTH IN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE MAKING OF THIS HYMNAL TO BE RENDERED TO THE GLORIFICATION OF GOD'S HOLY NAME.

MAY THE LORD INDEED OPEN OUR LIPS AND LET OUR MOUTHS SHOW FORTH HIS PRAISE. MAY WE HONOR AND ADORE HIM, BOW THE KNEE BEFORE HIM AND TRULY WORSHIP HIM IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS.

SO IN LOVING MEMORY OF PECK AND ED FAIRMAN WE NOW DEDICATE THESE HYMNALS FOR THE WORSHIP OF ALMIGHTY GOD.

EASTER WORSHIP - COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - APRIL 7, 1996
SCRIPTURE: MT 28:1-8; SERMON: "FOREVER EMPTY"

(ILUS STEVEN & DY AT 24, BODY FRCZN, DOUBT BY MOTHER)
SUPOZ SUMON ASK MARY BOUT RESUR - ANSR LK STEV MOTHER
OR ASK OTHR WOMEN - SAME ANSWER
I DED SINC FRIDAY, & WHY CAM TOMB SUNDAY

MK WRIT QUES OF WOMN BOUT STONE - THOZ WHO MADE STUDY SAT,
STONE=GRANIT, 8FT DIA, 1FT THIK IN GRUV, WEIGH 4TON
GOD TUK CARE DETAIL UNIQUE WAY=MT 28:2

XP CAM OUT OF TOMB & NOONE SAW IT HAPN - ALL EXCEPT GOD

VS 3=HVNLY BEING

VS 4=GUARDS-KOUSTODIA - SPECIL UNIT 16 MEN

SQUARE 4MEN EA SIDE PROTEG 6SQ FT GR APIECE

IF ONE FAIL, ALL EXECUTD-STRIP OF CLOTHS, FIRE START W/THEM &
THEY BURND ALIV - DUZ IT SEEM POSIB 4GARDS LET ANYONE NEAR???

VSS 5-6A=THIS EXPL EVRTHING

ERTHQUAK-STONE ROLWAY ANGELS-GURADS PARLYTIC STATE

VS 6B=MT NO TEL GRAV CLOTHS, WOMN GO IN

ANGEL SED ENUF 2CONVINC - THEY EXHIBIT THER FAITH

(ILUS AGNOSTIC PROF & LITTL GIRL ANSR BOUT TH/RIGHT JS)

THIS ABSOLUT BLIND FAITH IS WAT WE SHUD HAV

LET OTHRS GO OVR ALL DETAILS & QUESTIN -LET US BLIEV IN TH/ONE
DETH ENMY OF MAN SINC GARDN EDN, BUT JS AROS & APOSTL PAUL WHO ROSE
WRITE & ASK - O DETH WHER IS THY STING?

(ILUS ONLY WHITE MAN BURIED BLACK CEMETARY)

ILUS CEMTARYS, NO LK AS BOY, CONDUCT 500 FUNERALS OR SO, STILL NO
LK, BUT HAV DIF FEELING BOUT THEM

(J'S MAN EXPLAIN ONLY BURY TH/SHELL, TH/NUT IS GONE)

WHEN ONCE WONDR BOUT GRAVS CEMTARY CAN NOW STAND IN CEMTARY &
PICTUR IN MY MIND A DAY WEN JS WIL APPEAR IN EA BURIAL GROUND
ERTH WIL TREMBL/SHAK LK 1ST EASTER MORN

LORD HIMSELF WIL SAY=WAK UP MY BOY, MY GIRL G'S MORNIN IS CUM

AND EA THOZ GRAVS WILB 4EVR EMPTY JUS LK TOMB IN JERUSALEM

WAT WUD U ANSR IS SUMONE ASKD U IF UNEXPECTD UR LUV'D ONES 2B
RAIS'D FROM TH/GRAV???

UNLIK STEVEN'S MOTHER I WUD SAY - ALL THOZ WHO SEEEP IN JS SHALB
RAIS'D

BCUZ THAT WILB G'S MORNIN

TH/TOMB OF JZ XP IS EMPTY & BCUZ OF HIM ALL GRAVS WILB ONE
DAY B EMPTY

(Ilus Steven & dy 24, Cyronics & doubt by moth'r)
I HAV ONLY A REMOR HOPE 4MY BOY'S RESURECTIN

Stone was:

GRANITE

FEET INDIAMETER

1 FOOT THICK, WEIGHED 4 TONS

VS 2 - NO ONE SAW JS CUM OUT - NO ONE BUT GOD

(Expl specil Romn gard - KOUSTODIA)

VSS 5-6A

this expl=REASN FOR ERTHQUAK,

TH/STON ROL AWAY, TH/GARDS LOK'D IN PARLYTIC STAT
& ANGL SIT ON STON & EXPL THINGS TO WOMEN

VS 6B

(Ilus faith of littl girl)

I BLIEV IN THE ONE WHO ROSE FROM THE DEAD

WAKE UP BOY TH/JS G'S MORNIN

(ILUS ONLY WHITE MAN BURIED IN BLACK CEMETARY)

WAKE UP BOY TH/JS G'S MORNIN

(Ilus man expl 2 frends widow bout shell)

U KNO WE R ONLY BURYING TH/SHELL OF TOM,

THE NUT IS GONE

I wud say:

ALL THOZ WHO SLEEP IN XP SHALB RAIS'D

BCUZ THAT WILB G'S MORNIN

TH/TOMB OF JS XP IS EMPTY, & BCUZ OF HIM ALL GRAVS WILL ONE

DAY B FOREVER EMPTY.

"Forever Empty"

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-8

(Ilus Steven & Cryonics & doubt by mothr)

Supos sumone had bin talk 2Mary,womn cal=Mothr Js & had askd quest-Do U think Ur Son wil ris fr/Jos's tomb?

In all prob she wud hav ansrd=I hav only remot hop 4my Son's Res
c if sumone had askd Mary Mag & othr Mary B4 ariv at tomb,&

and sam quest,ansr prob wud hav bin same

Aft'r all,they had seen Him ded on Fri aft & they knu of Jos tak bod & plac in tomb - they had helpd

Now,cam 2tomb 2finish hurried preps 4burial wh/bin made Fri

It Mark wrot ques of womn bout rol ston away

(Expl of stone hght,wgt,etc)

Womn whud hav bin justify wondr who wud rol ston bak so cud prep bod of Js 4burial

But G tuk care that detail in uniq way

Vs 2=canot pictur this even,but mus bin lik ilusinary acts magic ians lik Dav Coprfield perform on TV

He wavs hand,ther is smok/vapor & objec disapears

But this event of G's was mor spectaculr

wen th/trembl & shak of erth tuk plac,th/body of Js cam out of tomb & no one saw it happn - No One Except GOD

ther,B4 th/unBliev eyes of womn was wat they knu 2B hvnly Being

sit on ston they wer worryd bout remov 2get in2 tomb

& not only that,but if had any fears bout Romn gard,thoz fears also removd

(Expl specil Romn gards of KOUSTODIA)

Duz it seem posibl then that thez 4gards wer about 2let anyone near that tomb???

vss 5-6A=that expl reasn 4erthquak,th/ston B rold away,th/gards lockd in2 sum parlytic stat,& th/angl sit on ston expl things

But angl gav them news wh/prob no completely comprhend

ve)=Th/pruf Js no longer in tomb was fac angl cud pt 2 niche cut in2 ston wher bod cud B laid & ther no body ther

Mt no expl bout grav cloths lik othrs

in fac,he no tel of wo,n go in2 tomb,they jus Bliev'd,th/words of th/angl wer enuf 2convinc them,

all it tuk was ther faith

(Ilus of faith of littl girl Js ros fr/ded)

Th/absolut blind faith that littl girl is sam faith we shud hav

let thoz who mus,quest th/details of resurectin ~~xxx~~ story &

let them cum 2the ilogicl ansrs

But 4anyone who wants 2kno Js Xp as Lord evn of deth,we mus

say,I Bliev in th/ONE who ros fr/th/ded

Deth has bin enmy of man sinc Bcam curs of mans lif bak in Gardn

Eden

But it was rising fr/ded that has takn sting out of deth & Apos P wrot very thinn & asks,"Wher O deth is thy sting?"

(Ilus Only White man buried in black cemetary)

2/

As boy,nevr likd cemetarys,ofn wondrd bout thoz graves & peo buried ther

but sinc bin in mor cemetarys than mos peo conduc & participat in aroun 500 funerls

I stil dont lik cemetarys 4many reasns

but wher I once usd 2lk at graves & wondr,I can now lk at the graves & ther is dif feeling

I've cum 2kno that all we plac in th/grav is th/shel of pers (Ilus of man expl bury shel,but nut is gon)

Wher once I wondrd bout th/graves in cemetarys I can now stand in a cemetary & pictur in my mind a day wen th/Lord Js Himself wil apear

in ea of thoz bury grnds He wil apear,& th/erth wil trembl,& shak lik it did on that 1st Eastr,

& th/Lord wil say,Wak up My boy,Wak up My girl,G's mornin has cum

And ea thoz graves of Blievrs wilB Sever Empty lik tomb in Jeru

Wat wud U anser if sumone askd U if U expectd Ur luvd ones 2B

raisd fr/th/grav???

Unlik Stevns mothr I wud say,All thoz who sleep in Xp shalB ~~xx~~ raisd

Bcuz that wilB G's mornin

th/tomb of Js Xp is Empty,& Bcuz of Him,all graves wil one day

B Forever Empty.

"Forever Empty"

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-8

(Illustration of Steven, died at 24, , Cryonics, & doubt of his mother)

A few years ago in New York city a young man named Steven determined that he wanted to have himself frozen solid until a medical cure was found for his intestinal infection that was going to take his life. He knew it was just a matter of time until he died because there was no cure for him. So he joined the Cryonics Society of New York and arrangements were made to freeze his body immediately after death. He died at the age of 24, and his wishes were carried out and he was placed in a large bottle filled with liquid nitrogen. His mother when asked if she thought her son would rise from that bottle, said, "I have only a remote hope for my boy's resurrection."

Suppose someone had been talking to Mary, the woman who was called "Jesus' Mother," and that person had asked the question, "Do you think your Son will rise from Joseph's tomb?" In all probability she would have answered, "I have only a remote hope for my boy's resurrection." Or, if someone had made it a point to speak to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary before they arrived at the garden tomb and asked the same question, the answer probably would have been the same. After all, they had seen Him dead on Friday afternoon and they knew of Joseph taking the body and placing it in his tomb. They came to the tomb to finish the hurried preparations for burial which were made on Friday afternoon. It was Mark who wrote of the questioning of the women as to who would roll away the stone from the door. It is said by those who have made a study of those things that the stone that was in front of the tomb would have been made of granite. It would have been eight feet in diameter and one foot thick. And it would have been rolled into a groove and have weighed 4 tons. So the women would have been justified in wondering who would roll back that stone so they could further prepare the body of Jesus for burial. But God took care of that little detail in a rather unique way. Matthew tells us, "And behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat on it," verse 2.

We cannot picture this event but it must have been like one of the illusionary acts magicians like David Copperfield perform on TV. You know what I mean. He waves his hands, a cloud of smoke and vapor appear and something sitting there seems to disappear. But this event was much more spectacular. When that trembling and shaking of the earth took place, The body of Jesus Christ came out of that tomb and no one saw it happen. No one except God. There, before the unbelieving eyes of those women was what they knew to be a heavenly being, sitting on the stone they were worried about removing to get into the tomb. And not only that, but if they had any fears about getting around the Roman guard those fears had also been removed. There were these extra special super guards, highly trained and highly disciplined, and they were immovable like dead men. There was absolutely no way that anything or anyone would have brought about this state of these guards unless it was supernatural. They would have fought to their very life's end to carry out their orders of guarding this tomb. The penalty for not carrying out their orders was death. These guards were a part of a unit which was called the "KOUSTODIA". This unit was made up of 16 men. Each man was expected to protect 6 square feet of ground. They formed a square with 4 men on each side and thus were able to protect 96 square at one time. Units like this were able to fight off entire armies, because these soldiers were so disciplined. If one man in this special Roman guard failed his duty, he was automatically executed along with the 15 others. They were each stripped of their clothes and burned alive in a fire

started with their own clothes. Does it seem possible then that 4 of these special guards were about to let anyone near that tomb?

The angel spoke to the women and said, "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen as He said." verses 5-6A.

That explained to them the reason for the earthquake, the stone being rolled away, the guards locked into some sort of paralytic state, and the angel sitting on the stone explaining things to them. But the angel then gave them news which they probably didn't completely comprehend. He said, "Come, see the place where the Lord lay," verse 6B.

The proof that Jesus was no longer in the tomb was the fact that the angel could point to that niche cut into the stone where a body could be laid and there was no longer a body there. Matthew doesn't go into some of the details the other Gospel writers include about the grave clothes lying on that shelf. And he doesn't tell of the women going into the tomb at this time. The words of the angel were enough to convince the women that Jesus had arisen from the grave. All it took was their faith that it was so.

(Illustration of agnostic professor asking girl about her belief in Jesus being risen)

An agnostic professor once asked a little girl who believed in Jesus, "There are so many who have claimed to be Christ. How can you be sure who told the truth? Which one do you believe?"

Without hesitation the little girl replied, "I believe in the One who rose from the dead."

The absolute blind faith of that little girl is the same faith that we should have. Let those who must, question the details of the resurrection story, and let them come to their illlogical answers. But for anyone who wants to know Jesus Christ as Lord even of death, we must say, "I believe in the ONE who rose from the dead!"

Death has been the enemy of man since it became the curse of man's life back in the Garden of Eden. But it was the rising from the dead that has taken the sting out of death, and the Apostle Paul wrote this very thing. He asks, "Where O death is thy sting?"

(Illustration of only white man buried in a black cemetery)

An unnamed distinguished white man became the only white person to be buried in an all black cemetery in Georgia. He had lost his mother when he was just a baby. His father never remarried, but he hired a black woman named Mandy to help raise his son. Mandy was a Christian and took her task very seriously. Seldom has a motherless boy ever received such warm-hearted treatment. One of his earliest memories was of Mandy bending over him in his upstairs bedroom each morning and softly saying, "Wake up, God's morning is come."

The years passed and Mandy continued to be the faithful substitute mother. He went away to college, but when he came home each holiday and summer she would climb the stairs -- more slowly now -- and call him in the same loving way. One day after he had become a successful statesman the message came, "Mandy is dead." "Can you attend her funeral?" As he stood by her grave in that cemetery, he turned to his friends and said, "If I die before Jesus comes, I want to be buried here beside Mandy. I like to think that on that resurrection day she'll speak to me again and say, 'Wake up my boy, God's mornin is come.'"

As a boy I never liked cemeteries. But since I've been in more cemeteries than most people conducting and participating in upwards of about 500 funerals, I still don't ~~like~~ really like them. But where once I used to look at the graves and wonder, I can now look at the graves and there is a different feeling. I've come to know that all that we place in the grave is the shell of the person.

(Illustration of man explaining the burying of the shell)

A man trying to explain the burying of a friend's body to the man's widow said, "You know, all that we are burying is the shell of Tom. The nut is gone."

Where once I wondered about the graves in cemeteries, I can now ~~fixate~~ stand in a cemetery and picture in my mind a day when the Lord Jesus will appear in each of those burying grounds, and the earth will tremble and shake as it did on that first Easter, and the Lord Himself will say, "Wake up My boy, Wake up My Girl, God's mornin is come." And each of those graves of believers will be "Forever Empty," just like that tomb in Jerusalem is and has been.

What would you answer if someone asked you if ~~you expected~~ you expected your loved ones to be raised from the grave? Unlike Steven's mother, I would say, "All those who sleep in Christ shall be raised. Because that will be God's mornin. The tomb of Jesus Christ is empty and because of Him, all graves will one day be "Forever Empty."

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 22, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Acolytes: Mike Kay and Nicole Merrison
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Proclamation Hymn No. 298 "Christ Arose"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) Our heavenly Father, forgive us
when we feel we are completely forgotten. With the
unseen presence of the Christ dwelling within our
hearts, we are never really alone, but are bound to
You with a spiritual kinship. Sustain us from
within, and inspire us to seek to live in spiritual
companionship with You, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 229 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "Shout Amen!"
Scripture: Luke 24: 13-29
Sermon: "On and On"
*Invitational Hymn No. 295 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives"
*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mrs. Fanchon Hindman and Joy in memory of Loved Ones.
Mrs. Marge Smiley will greet our members and friends at
the door this morning.
Ushering today will be Don Kingsley, Donley Martin, Dick
Mangel and Dick Dally.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Linda Patsy.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Dick Mangel.
Attendance last Sunday was 209 with 39 visitors.
Bob Weisenstein and Daryl Merrison will be visiting the
hospital this week.
Hospitalized: Dutch Bolam in West Penn in Pittsburgh
Jane Massart and Eleanor
Peters in BMH.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK:

Tuesday - 7 to 9 P.M. Elders and Deacons Training Class

THANKS, thanks and many more thanks should be expressed to
the men who participated in the Holy Thursday service.
Many very favorable comments have come from that service.
The men worked hard along with the Pastor to make sure
the meaning and atmosphere were set for such a service.
Who knows, maybe we could get them to do it again if you
would like them to. We also need to say Thanks to any-
one who helped to build, direct and costume any part of
the service.

UPCOMING DATES TO MARK DOWN:

May 1 - Council meeting at 7
8 - Sunday School Teachers meeting
9 - Ladies Spring Banquet
13 - Youth Service
14 - VBS meeting

We have the opportunity to serve a luncheon and dinner in
May. We will be needing some helpers. If you would like
to help with the luncheon see Helen Riemer or for the
dinner see Ginny Mangel. We really need lots of help!!

ELDERS meeting Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.

Sunday Evening Bible Study will resume at 7:00 P.M.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The Altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - APRIL 6, 1997

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

APR. 18 1998

PEL / B

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 24:13-29

Sermon; ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ "ON AND ON"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 4/22/90

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

EDNA

MANTHA

BILL

DON

1 - MARLINE

CLAIRE - DISASTER

KELLY FAMILY

SCRIP: LK 24:13-29; SERMN: "ON AND ON"

(ILUS LINE RANGER END OF PROGRAM, & HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW)

VSS 13-14=TWO FOLOWRS WALK 2WARD EMMAUS - 7 MI & TALK EVENTS

VSS 15-16=JS WITH THEM & THEY KNU IT NOT

VS 17=JS ASKS WAT THEY R TALK ABOUT & WHY SO SAD????

VS 18=JEOPAS-ALSO CAL ALPHEUS, FATHR OF APOS JAMES, HUS VIR MARY

OTHR PROB WRITR LUKE

VS 19A=JS ASKS QUES LIK HE DIDNT KNO PAST EVENTS

VSS 19B-24=BETWEEN THEM, THEY GIV ALL DETAILS BOUT JS ARES, TRAIL,

CRUCIFIXIN, BURAIL & NOT UNDRSTAND EMPTY TOMB

VS 21=TESTIMONY THEY BLIEVD HIM 2B TH/MESSIAH

VS 25-26=JS ASK QUES BOUT SCRIPTUR B FULFIL

VS 27=JS GIV THEM ALL SCRIP RELAT 2HIMSELF - TH/MESSIAH

JS PTS THEZ 2 TO SCRIP WHER G GIV PROPH & LATR FULFIL IT, THUS

LEAV NO DOUBT HIS WORD IS TRUE

VS 28=IMPLICATIN HE MADE AS IF TO WALK ON - GO FURTHER

VS 29=COAX HIM 2STAY PROB BCUZ HSI SPEECH/KNOWLEDG INTRIG THEM

VS 30=HE ~~XXXX~~ STAY W/THEM LONG ENUF 2EAT

VS 31=WHN BRAK/BLES BRED, VANISH, BUT NOT B4RECOGNIZ HIM

I PERSNLY BLIEV PT B MADE HERE, JS NO REAMAIN AS DESIRD, OR ANTICIP

BY HIS FOLOWRS - WE READ - VS 28B READ THIS

I KNO WAT MEANS BUT ALSO BLIEV IT MEANS JS CUDNT STOP HAD 2GO ON

FIRST: HE AROS FR/THE GRAV - TH/GRAV ONLY BRIEF STOP POINT

(ILUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA & PART TIME TOMB)

JS DEFEATD DETH & GRAV CUDNT HOLD HIM

(ILUS ALFRED MACE, FATHER JIM MACE & FUNERAL PROCESSIN)

JS DEFEATD DETH & HE HAD TO GO ON

SECOND: JS MADE 2GO ON FURTHER OUT OF COURTESY

HE WUDNT THEN, & WIL NOT NOW IMPOS HIMSELF ON ANYONE

GIVN MAN "FREE-WILL" AS THEO CAL IT & MEANS MAN CAN EITHER

ACCPY OR REJEC JS AS SAVOIR

NO ONE IS EVR FORCED TO ACCPT HIM

4THOZ WHO ACCPT HIM JS GOES ON AND ON - HE PART THER LIF EACH

MOMENT OF EACH DAY

THIS ONGO RELATSHIP G ESTAB THRU RESURECTIN OF JS XP

IT GRANT ETRNTY W/G, BUT ALSO ONGO ASSOC W/SAVIOIR AS LIV LIF

G NEVR INTEND RELATSHIP B BROKN IN GARDN EDEN & THAT WHY HE RESTC

THRU XP'S DETH & RESURECTIN

IT GO ON AND ON IN ALL TH/EVENTS OUR LIVS

(ILUS POEM BY FAY INCHPWN - DATED WRITING BUT STIL G'S TRUTH)

HE CUMS TO US GUD DAYS/BAD DAYS, CALM/STRF, REGARDLES TIME/PLACE

HIS MINSTRY OUR LIVS GOES ON AND ON & THAT TRU JOY RISN CHRIST

HIS LIF, DETH, RESURECTIN ALL HAD PURP & MEAN 4THOZ ACCPT HIM &

SEEK 2LIV FOR HIM

WE HAV RELATSHIP GOES ON AND ON WITH

SAV JS XP - LET THIS B OUR COMP 2DAY

EVRDDAY OUR LIVS

IF U GO ON TODAY U LIVE TODAY

"On And On"

Scripture: Luke 24:13-29
 voic od radio anouncr cuts in2 clos music of progrm & sez:AS THE
 SUN SINKS SLOWLY IN2TH/WEST,TH/LON RANGR RIDS OFF IN2 TH/SUNSET
 Onc agrin evil has bin defeatd & gudnes has triumphd
 storys & thots such as thez hav always capturd th/feelings &
 jirs of peo evrwher
 no one wants 2think or Bliev that evil evr triumphs
 But Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote bout Bells on Xmas Day:
 & IN DESPAIR I HUMBLED MY HEAD:THER IS NO PEAC ON EARTH I SED,
 FOR HATE IS STRONG & MOKS TH/SONG OF PEAC ON EARTH GUDWIL 2MEN.
 Th/folows of Js had eithr seen Him dy,or herd bout it that He dyc
 on Friday afternoon
 Sun morn had cum & now story was spread,His tomb empty,but He
 was not B seen by evrone
 2 thez folows decid return hom in Emmaus rather than stay rnd
 Jeru midst gloom/despair
 4them hopful pictur evil B concurd once & 4all is ovr
 it jus dream,nuth chngd & sum thoz who shud hav rejoic that G
 had stept in2 histry wer th/mos vigrus in seek lif of Js
 thez 2men,one nam Cleopas & othr Bliev 2B lk,walk 7mi & discus
 th/events
 As walk,meet stnng,who actuly Js ,but G no permit recogniz
 vs 17=Js ask questin
 Cleopas ansr & ask if perhap He only one in Jeru no kno events
 vs 19A=Js ask
 Vss 19B-20=they explain things 2 Him
 Vss 21-24=in sorro/despair they go on
 Here was ther story,& it dash all ther hopes/dr ams of gud tri-
 umph ovr evil
 here was Cleopas also calld Alpheus,who fathr of Apos James,
 & husband of V Mary's sistr,spk 2this strngr as tho bin liv in
 4pas wk or so
 In his frustratin he say=vs 21A
 "He was supposd 2B th/Mesiah,& all this shattrd=He tel Js
 Js stil unrecognized expound Scrip & ~~thx~~ ask=vs 26
 Thez 2discips wer pt 2Scrip wh/wher G givs proph & latr fulfils
 this giv pruf,& lv no doubt His Word is tru
 aftr Js spokn thez thing,Lk tel us=vs 28B
 Implicatin is,He act as tho keep on walk,but=vs 29
 Js stay w/them 4 short periud tim
 He ther lng enuf 2sit dwn w/them 2eat
 but aftr tak bred,giv blesing,He vanish out ther site,but not
 B4 they recogniz Him
 I persnly Bliev ~~xx~~ that one pt B made here is that Js did not
 remain as decid or anticpatd by His folows
 we read=vs 28B
 now I undrst wat means,& seems 2imply=He continu on walk,but I
 wud lik 2submit also means Js cud not stop & had 2 Go On

2/

FIRST: He aros fr/grav
 th/Grav 4Him was only brief stop pt - He defeat deth
 (Ilus Alfred Mace.fathr Jim Mace & deth ~~xxxx~~ defeatd)
 Js defeat deth, He had 2 Go On
 SECOND: Js made "as 2go on 4thr" out of coustesy
 He wud not then,& wil not now impos self on anyone
 as givn man wat Theologins cal=Free-will
 this mean man has abilty eithr accpt/rejec Him as Sav
 4thoz chooz rejec He passes on by
 No one is evr forc'd 2 accpt Js in2 ther livs
 4thoz chooz 2 accpt Him,Js goes On And On
 He part ther livs ea momen of ea day
 it an ongo relaship wh/G estab thru resurectin of Js Xp
 it grant 2 ea Blievtr strnty w/G,but also an ongo assoc w/Sav
 as liv this lif
 G nev'r intend that relaship B brokn as it was in Gardn Edn
 & that why He restor it thru Js Xp's deth/resurrectin
 It goes On And On in all th/events our livs
 (Ilus Fay Inchfawn poem)
 He cums 2us on our gud days & bad days,
 in calm & in strif regardles of tim or place
 His minstry in our livs goes ON AND ON
 that's tru joy of Risen Xp
 His lif,His deth,His resurectin all had purp & mean 4thoz who
 accpt Him & seek 2liv 4 Him
 We hav relaship that duznt end w/Sav Js Xp
 Let this B Ur comf 2day & evrday Ur livs
 if U dont hav that assuranc,2day is th/day 2invt Him in2 Ur lif

AS TH/SUN SINKS SLOLY IN2 TH/WEST,TH/LON RANGR RIDS OFF IN2
TH/SUNSET

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrot:

& IN DESPAIR I BOWD MY HED,THER IS NO PEAC ON ERTH I SED,
FOR HATE IS STRONG & MOKS TH/SONG OF PEAC ON ERTH GUDWIL 2MEN

Vs 17=Js ask quest

Vs 19A=Js ask quest

Vss 19B-20=Expl 2 Him

Vss 21-24=Sorro/Despair go on

Vs 28B=Keep on walk

Vs 29=stayd

vs 28B=persnl Bliev Js didnt remain as desird/antiopat

FIRST:

grav was only brief stop

(Ilus Alfred Mace,Father John fighter)

HERE HE C'MS AGIN DAD,& ONLY BIN BEATN ONCE

Father: WHER IS HE???

ALFRED: THER HE IS,& HIS NAM IS DETH

Fay Inchfawn - Englishwoman poem?

SUMTMS WEN ~~THINXX~~ EVRTHING GOES WRONG:WEN DAYS R SHORT &
NITES R LONG:

WEN WASH DAY BRINGS SO DULL A SKY THAT NOT A SINGL THING WILDRY

& WEN TH/KITCHN CHIMNY SMOKS,& WEN THER'S NOT SO QUEER AS FOLKS

WEN FRENDZ DEPLOR MY FADED YOUTH,& WEN TH/BABY CUTS A TOOTH.

WHIL JON TH/BABY, LAST BUT ONE, CLINGS RND MY SKIRT TIL DAY IS

DUN:

& FAT,GUD NATURD JANE IS GLUM,& BUTCHRS MAN 4GETS 2CUM

SMTMS I SAY ON DAYS LIK THEZ,I GET A SUDN GLEAM OF BLISS

NOT ON SUM SUNNY DAY OF EAS, HE'LL CUM,BUT ON A DAY LIK THIS.

"On And On"

Scripture: Luke 24:13-29

The voice of the radio announcer cuts into the closing music of the program and he says:
"As the sun sinks slowly into the west, the Lone Ranger rides off into the sunset."

Once again evil has been defeated and goodness has triumphed. Stories and thoughts such as these have always captured the feelings and desires of people everywhere. No one wants to think that evil triumphs. But it was Henry Wordsworth Longfellow who wrote about the bells on Christmas Day, ~~"The bells are ringing, and the bells are ringing"~~ "And in despair I bowed my head: 'There is no peace on earth;' I said; 'For hate is strong, and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men.'"

The followers of Jesus had either seen Him die, or had heard that He had died on Friday afternoon. Sunday morning had come and now the story was spreading that His tomb was empty, but ~~xx~~ He was not in evidence. Two of those followers decide to return to their home in Emmaus rather than stay around Jerusalem amidst their gloom and despair. For them, the hopeful picture of evil being conquered once and for all is over. It was just a dream; nothing has changed; and some of those who should have rejoiced that God was at last intervening into the world were the most vigorous in seeking the life of Jesus. These two men, one who is named Cleopas and the other believed by many to be Luke himself, walk the 7 miles to Emmaus discussing these events. And as they walked, they meet a stranger who is actually Jesus, but God doesn't permit them to recognize Him as such at this point. So it is that Jesus asks them, "What manner of communications are these that ye have to one another, as ye walk and are sad?" verse 17.

It is Cleopas who answers Him and asks Him if He is perhaps the only person in Jerusalem who doesn't know all of the events which transpired in the past week.

Jesus then asks, "What things?" verse 19A. And they explained to Him, (Read verses 19B-20).

And in sorrow and despair they explain, "But we trusted that it had been He which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done. Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; and there they found not His body, they came saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that He was alive. And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but Him they saw not." verses 21-24.

Here was their story, and it dashed all of their hopes and dreams of good triumphing over evil.

~~They were talking and talking and talking and talking~~ Here was Cleopas, ~~xxxxxx~~ who was also called "Alphaeus" who was the father of the Apostle James, and was the husband of the Virgin Mary's sister, speaking to this stranger who must have been living in a cave somewhere for the past week or so. In his sense of frustration he says, "We trusted it had been He which should have redeemed Israel."

"He was supposed to be the Messiah," he is telling this man, "and all of that is shattered."

But Jesus, still unrecognized and unknown to them expounds Scripture to them proving that this crucified Jesus was THE MESSIAH promised. He prefaced His remarks with the question, "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory?" verse 26.

These two disciples were pointed to Scripture which is where God ~~fixes~~ many times gives the prophecy and then later fulfills it, leaving no doubt that His Word is true.

After Jesus had spoken these things to them, they arrived at the village and Luke explains, "And He made as though He would have gone further," verse 28B.

The implication is that He acted as though He was going to continue walking. ~~xxx~~ "But they constrained Him, saying, 'Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.' And He went in to tarry with them," verse 29.

Jesus stayed with them for a short period of time. He was there long enough to sit down with them to eat. But after He had taken bread and said the blessing, He vanished out of their sight, but not before they recognized Him.

I personally believe that one point which is being made here is that Jesus did not remain as desired, or anticipated by His followers. We read that "He made as though He would have gone further."

Now I understand what that means and it means what it implies, "that He seemed as though He would continue walking on." But I would like to submit that it also means that Jesus could not stop and had to go on.

First, He arose from the grave. The grave for Him was only a brief stopping point. He defeated death.

(Illustration of Alfred Mace, father Jim Mace, and funeral procession)

Alfred Mace was a minister. His father Jim Mace was a champion boxer at one time. One day they were walking together down the street when a funeral procession came down the street. Alfred said, "Here he comes again Dad, and only been beaten once."

His father, thinking he was talking about some fighter looked up and down the street and at the nearby stores and buildings and asked, "Where is he?" "There he is," Alfred said, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ "And his name is death," he exclaimed pointing to the funeral going by.

Jesus defeated death, He had to go on.

Second, Jesus "made as to go on further" out of courtesy. He would not then, and He will not now, impose Himself upon anyone. God has given man what theologians have entitled, "Free-will!" This means that man has the ability to either accept Him as Savior, or to reject Him.

For those who choose to reject Him, He passes on by. No one is ever forced to accept Jesus into their lives.

For those who choose to accept Him, Jesus goes "On And On." He is a part of their life each moment of each day. It is an ongoing relationship which God established through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It grants to each believer eternity with God, but also an ongoing association with our Savior as we live this life. God never intended for that relationship to be broken as it was in the Garden of Eden, and that is why He restored it through Christ's death and resurrection. It goes, "On And On," in all of the events of our lives.

Fay Inchfawn an Englishwoman wrote a bit of verse a number of years ago along these lines.

You will recognize that some of the writing is dated, but the verse still states God's truth.

She wrote: "Sometimes, when everything goes wrong;
When days are short and nights are long;
When wash-day brings so dull a sky
That not a single thing will dry.
And when the kitchen chimney smokes,
And when there's naught so "queer" as folks!
When friends deplore my faded youth,
And when the baby cuts a tooth.
While John the baby last but one,
Clings round my skirts till day is done;
And fat, good-tempered Jane is glum,
And butcher's man forgets to come.

Sometimes I say on days like these,
I ~~gat~~ a sudden gleam of bliss.
Not on some sunny day of ease,
He'll come ... but on a day like this!"

He comes to us on good days and bad days; in calm or strife; regardless of time or place. His ministry in our lives goes "On And On." That's the true joy of the Risen Christ. His life, His death, His Resurrection all had purpose and meaning for those who accept Him and seek to live for Him. We have a relationship that goes "On And On," with our Savior Jesus Christ. Let this be your comfort today and everyday of your life. If you don't have that assurance, today is the day to invite Him into your life.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor April 29, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Acolytes: Mike Kay and Nicole Merrison

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 334 "We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) Almighty God, who brought from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, help us in the days of our flesh to minister like Him. Keep our tempers cool and our spirits calm; make us brave to fight for the right and to stand firm against those who would oppress the weak. Give us grace to know Him as our Living Lord, and strengthen us that we may follow in His footsteps; for we ask this all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 439 "Sweet Hour of Prayer"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.
Morning Prayer
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "Cast Thy Burden Upon The Lord" - Benjamin Harlan
Scripture: Luke 5: 12-16
Sermon: "Slipping Away"
*Invitational Hymn No. 442 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"
*Closing Chimes

*Benediction
*Postlude
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Tait in memory of Loved Ones.
Mrs. Lois Pennington will greet our members and guests at the door this morning.
Ushering today are Marge Smiley, Genny Nohach, Lucille Tack and Carol Roper.
Nursery will be provided today by Helen Crawford
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Bill Snyder.
Attendance last Sunday was 99 with 7 visitors.
Don Kingsley and Ben Vensel are scheduled to visit the hospital this week.
*Hospitalized: Eleanor Peters, BMH

>ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK:
Tuesday - 7 P.M. Elders and Deacons training class
Wednesday - 7 P.M. Council meeting
>UPCOMING MEETING TO REMEMBER:
May 8th - Teachers meeting at 7 P.M.
May 13th - Youth Service at 11:00 A.M.
May 14th - VBS meeting at 7 P.M.
LADIES SPRING BANQUET will be held on May 9th. This is for all the women of the church and their female friends, relatives and neighbors, etc. This is a tureen dinner, so bring your table service and a tureen. Meat, dessert, and beverage will be provided. The men of the church will be assisting with the dinner. Time is 6 P.M.
May 5th the Butler Fellowship of Churches Women's Commission will be holding a luncheon here at the church. This is their annual luncheon. You may purchase tickets at \$4.00 each from Peg McClymonds. If you would like to help in any way with the luncheon, please see Helen Riemer.
We still need some helpers to serve a dinner here on May 22nd. If you can help please see Ginny Mangel or drop her a note in the offering plate. We need a lot of helpers, men and women.
At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - APRIL 13, 1997

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

DEATH OF MABEL LORENZO'S MOTHER - EDNA

BALLOON RICHARDY

LAIR 24TH

THILA 22ND

BETHAN

*HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN

SCRIPTURE: MARK 1:29-35

SERMON: "SLIPPING AWAY"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 4/29/90

*N
BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE

MABEL'S FAMILY

FARMERS/PEOPLE MIDWEST

WILLARD - CAROL

KELLY FAMILY

UNWISDOMEN - JOAN

MARTHA

BILL

IT LIVES ME (KIDS)
226

MT 6:6

MANY PEOPLES ERONOUSLY BLIEV IT MEAN MUS SLIP AWAY FR/EVERTH/EVERBODY

JS DIDNT MEAN MUS HAV SECRET ROOM, B AWAY FR/EVERTHING

HE MENT SHUT OUT TH/WORL WHER U R & PRAY

AT DESK, IN CAR, AT SINK WEN WASH DISHES, WEN IRON, IN MILL, WEN WALK,

ANYWHER U R U CAN PRAY

IT ACTIC THIS WIL LERN WAT PRAYR CAN DO OUR LIVS & WAT IT CAN

DA IN TH/CHURCH

I CHALENG EA US 2PRACTIC PRAY THIS WK

2DO THIS SIMPLY MEANS WE WIL 2DO WAT JS HAS SED 2DO

(ILUS HENRY III OF GERMANY 'S & HIS OBEIDENCE)

THAT WAT JS ASK OF US - OBEIDENCE 2WAT HE HAS SHOWN/TAUT

W/IN CH PEOPLES LK AT OTHERS & SAY, "IF I WER PREACHR I'D KNO HOW

2PRAY"

OR, "I WISH I WER MISTINARY THEN I CUD DO THINGS 4 GOD"

G HAS PLAC US WHER WE R - HE RECT US 2GETHR THIS CONG

HERE WHER HE WANT US 2SERV & THAT MEAN PRAY HERE & PRIVATLY

OUR RESPONDS NEEDS 2B "I'LL B OBEID LORD, JUS SHO ME WAT 2DO"

TRY "SLIPPING AWAY" THIS WK WHEREVR U MAY FIND URSELF & PRAY

TRY IT & C WAT G CAN & WIL DO IN UR LIF, & IN THIS CHURCH

SCRIP: MK 1:29-35; SERMON: "SLIPPING AWAY"

(ILUS TYPICAL AMERICAN BY UNITED PRESS SURVEY)

(ILUS BAPTIST CHURCH IN KANSAS & AS FOR AIR-CONDITIONED CHURCH)

LAS PART MAY WEL SPK 4TRU SIGN OF TIMES BCUZ "COOL SUNDAY SERVS"
TAK PLAC MANY CHURCHS WHICH R NOT AIR-CONDITIONED

IS THIS TRUE??

(ILUS ATHEIST, CH FIRE & "THIS 1ST TIME EVR SEEN FIRE THIS CH")

MAYB SED MANY CH'S SIMPLY BCUZ SIGNS OF TIMES HAV CREP IN & HAV
KEPT OUT TH/THINGS OF GOD

SCRIP THIS MORN INTERESTING

VSS 29-31=JS HEALD P'S MOTHER-IN-LAW - & FAME SPRED

VS 32=WORD GOT ARND & PEOP CAM 2B HEALD

VS 33=MITEB GENRALIZATIN, GUD POSSIBLY MENT "ALL TH/CITY"

BUT WAT DUZ IT REALY SAY??? JS WAS HOUNDED BY PEOP

VS 34=HE HEALD & PROB DO UNTIL LATE AT NITE

JS WAS LIV IN AGE WEN PEOP SOT OUT THOZ W/NU IDEAS OR TEACHES

FAME HAD SPRED FAR & WIDE - VSS 27-28=(READ THESE)

HIS MESAG NU/BIF & PEO THEN AS NCM SOT 2B ENTERTAIND

2B ABL 2SAY - "I WAS THER" XXXXX & I SAW HIM IN PERSON

SO WAT DID JS DO???

VS 35=JS "SLIPPED AWAY" TO PRAY

WE READ THIS IN MK 6:46, LK 5:16, LK 6:12 & OTHERS

JS WUD OFTN "SLIP AWAY"

WE IN CH OF JS XP CAN DO NO LES THAN OUR MASTR

WE MUS SEEK 2MAK PRAYR A VITAL PART OF OUR LIVS

(ILUS YNG MAN LUMBER CAMP, CUT TREES, BUT NO SHAPEN AX)

HAV WE BIN 2BOSY IN CH 2SHARPEN OUR AXES???

WE FAIL IN OUR CH'S BCUZ NO TAK TIME "SLIP AWAY" FR/HUSTL/BUSTL

EVERDAY LIF 2SPEND TIME W/GOD

NO MEAN CUM 2CH ON SUN MORN - GLAD W DO & THANKFUL

BUT, MOR THAN JUS SUN

() OUT DURING WK AT SKUL, AT WORK, AT HOME???

HOW MUCH TIME DO WE SPEND "SLIP AWAY" 2PRIVATLY SPK W/GOD???

WE MUST PRAY BCUZ WAT PRAYR DUZ TO US

(ILUS PASTOR ZEBEDAYO OF ZAIRE, AFRICA)

(ILUS WESTMINSTER PCA & CONG PRAYING SUNDAY MORNING)

THEZ STORIES THRIL US, BUT CUD HAPPN HERE IF PRIVATLY/COLECTIVLY

WE WUD PRAY MOR

JS HAS TAUT US TH/IMPORTANC OF GET AWAY & PRAY, BUT 2MANY OF US

HAV NOT TAKN HIM SERIOUSLY & PRACTICD IT

MT 6:6, JS TELS US HOW 2DO THIS

(Ilus "Typicl Amercn by Unitd Pres)

TH/UP SURVY FND THAT 'TYPICL AMRCN IS A 27YR-OLD WHO DUZ NOT READ
ONE BUK A YR. HE IS MATERILISTIC, SATIDFYD W/SMAL PLEASURS, BORED
W/THEO DISPUTATINS. ALTHO HE MAY ATEND CH 27TIMS A YR, HE IS NOT
INTRESTD IN TH/SUPERNATURL. HE IS CONCERND W/NEITHR HVN NOR HELL.
IN FAC, HE HAS NO INTRES WATEVR IN IMORTALTY. HIS PRINCPL INTRESTS
AR/ BTBALL, HUNTING, FISHING, & CARTINKRING

(Il ad of Kansas Batpsit ch - signs of times)

WORSHIP IN COMFORT

U CAN WORSH IN OUR LATES SCIENTIFCLY CONTROLD AIR-CONDITIND SANC
IT HAS REFRIGATD COOLING. NO STUFY WATR COOLRS 2INFEC UR SINUSES,
STIR UR HAY FEVR, OR GIV U A COLD. TH/AIR IS DEHEMIDFYD, WEL CIRCU
ATED, AND CHNGD COMPLETELY EVRY 5MIN.

& Then in Larg Lettrs==COOL CUNDY SERVICES

(Ilus atheist & Ch/fire)

I'VE NEVR SEEN U IX AT CH B4

THIS IS 1ST TIM I'V EVR SEEN FIRE IN THIS CH.

Vss 12-13

JS B hounded by peo

Lk 4:42

5:1-3

Vs 14A-tel no one

Vs 15

Vs 16

Lk 4:42A

6:12 -MUS SEEK ~~MA~~ MAK PRAYR PART LIVS BCUZ WAT DUZ 2US
(Ilus yng man lumbr camp & no shaprn ax)

MUS PARY BCUZ WAT PRAYR DUZ 2 TH/CH

(Ilus Pastor Zebedayo Idu in Zaire)

(Ilus Wm Carey-FATHR MODRN MISSINS & BEDRID SISTR PRAY 4 -50 YRS.
MT 6:6
WE MUS PRAY BCUZ JS PRAYD

(Ilus K Henry III of Germany & Obedience)

TH/XING LERN 2RULE BY BEING OBEDIENT)

"Slipping Away"

Scripture: Luke 5:12-16
 (Ilus "typicl Am" by United Press survey)
 Now acord 2 UP wh/mad this survy not 2lng ago this Typcl Am
 naturly,not all pec fit in2 this category,but duz sho sign times
 (Ilus ad Kansas Bap Ch & air conditin sanc)
 th is word may wel spk 4 sign of times Bcuz=Cool Sun servs tak
 plac many ch's do not hav air-conditin
 & why this tru? simply Bcuz ther no lif in pastr,choir,membrs or
 whol Ch
 (Ilus atheist,& help put out Ch fire)
 this may welB sed many ch's simply Bcuz signs-times hav crep in
 & hav kep out things of G
 Our Scrip this morn intrest one sevrل ways
 vss 12-13=this jus simpl cas Js heal man w/leprosy
 but hiddn w/in Scrip 2-unique things
 FIRST: Js hounded by pec
 Lk tel us chap 4:42-READ,& then Bgin chap 5:1-3-READ
 then record heal man w/lep & Js tel him=Vs 14A-READ
 but that did no gud caus Lk tel us=Vs 15-READ
 How did Js handl this?
 He liv in age wen pec sot thoz had nu ideas/think
 His fem spred far/wid Bcuz as Gospl writrs tel us=NO ONE SPOK
 LIK THIS MAN
 His methods,His mesag wer nu & dif
 & pec then as now ~~xxx~~ seek 2B entrtaind,2B in on "IN" things
 & B abl tel frends/reltivs-I was ther in persn
 But Js knu cudnt phys put up w/throng crowd day afr day w/out
 specil strngth
 that why no surp Lk record=Vs 16-READ
 Lk also say sam thing 4:42A
 6:12 read-READ THIS
 I wud "Slip Away" & we in Ch of Js Xp can do no les than our
 Master
 we mus seek 2hav prayr Bcum a vitل part our livs
 (Ilus yng man lumbr camp cut trees,no sharpn ax)
 Hav we bin 2busy in th/Ch 2shappn our axes?
 we fail in th/Ch Bcuz we do not tak tim 2-Slip Away fr/hustل
 & bustل of evrday lif 2spen tim 2x w/God
 & I dont mean cum 2 Ch on Sun morn,Bcuz we shud do that & I'M
 thankful that U do
 but how bout dur th/wk at work,hom,skul?
 How much tim do we spen-Slipping Away 2 provatly spk w/God?
 We mus pray Bcuz of wat Prayr duz 2 us
 Then we mus pray Bcuz way prayr duz in th/Ch
 (Ilus Pastr Zebedayo Idu in Zaire,Africa)
 storys such as thez thrill us at th/powr of prayr
 but it nuth nu & can hpn in our livs if only we wud cultvat
 "Slipping Away" as Js showd by His exampl

This no mean mus go way sumwher 2do this 2/
 Wm Carey bin calld=Th/Fathr of mod missins," yet how many pec
 kno had parlyzd bed-ridn sister prayd 4him 4-50yrs???
 prayr can mak things hpn in th/Ch,& we no need 2lv hom 4it
 2hapn
 & then we mus pray Bcuz Js prayd
 P taut us th/importnc of prayr but th/Ch in many instances has
 n. taken this seriously
 (Ilus 11th centry King Henry of Germny & obedienc)
 2oft w/in Ch we lk at wat sumone els abl 2do/acomplish & our
 respons is-I wish I cud do that but I am not preachr/missinary
 & if I wuz,then I cud do thoz things for God
 We need 2kno G plac us wher we R
 He brot us 2gethr this cong & our respons need 2B=I'LL B OBED
 WHER I AM L,JUS SHO ME WAT U WANT ME 2DO
 we need 2practic=Slipping Away" in ordr 2B obed
 Js taut art of Slipping Away not only by exampl,but in His teach
 In Serm on Mt Mt 6:6-READ
 In KJV read=Closet & many pec eronusly Bliev means U need 2slip
 away fr/evrth,& evrbdy in ordr 2pray
 Js didnt actuly mean a secret room
 He simply ment 2shutout th/worل wher we R & pray
 this canB dun at Ur desk at work,or skul,at sink wash dishs,
 in mil,driv dwn rd=anywher w/out shut eyes
 if we practic this we wil lern art of Slipping Away as th/Lord
 has taut us
 But we wil also lern wat prayr can do 4us,wat it can do 2us, &
 wat it can do 4 th/Ch
 Perhaps U ne r prayrd much Bcuz U think requirs specil ed/train
 Or,U may nevr takn th/tim 2do Bcuz U may think requirs lots of
 tim
 Watever Ur situ mayB this morn,accept L's invitatin 2=Slip AWAY
 r/evrday world & lif & draw nigh un2 Him
 & then watch wat He wil do in Ur lif!

"Slipping Away"

Scripture: Luke 5:12-16

(Typical American by United Press survey)

The United Press survey found that the "typical American" is a 27 year-Old who does not read one book a year. He is materialistic, satisfied with small pleasures, bored with theological disputations. Although he may attend church twenty-seven times a year, he is not interested in the supernatural. He is concerned with neither heaven nor hell. In fact, he has no interest whatever in immortality. His principal interests are football, hunting, fishing, and cartinkering.

Now according to the United Press which made this survey not too long ago, this is the "typical American." Naturally, not all people fit into this category, but it does show the signs of the times. Another interesting bit of the signs of the times is the advertisement ~~xxx~~ for a Kansas Baptist Church. The ad reads:

Worship in Comfort

You can worship in our latest scientifically controlled air-conditioned sanctuary. It has refrigerated cooling. No stuffy water coolers to infect your sinuses, stir your hay fever, or give you a cold. The air is dehumidified, well circulated, and changed completely every five minutes. (And then in large letters the ad reads, "COOL Sunday services").

The last part may well speak for a true sign of the times because "Cool Sunday services" take place in many churches that do not have air-conditioning. And why is this true? It's simply because there may not be any fire in the pastor, the choir, the members, and the whole church.

(Illustration of atheist helping to put out church fire)

A story is told of an atheist who lived next door to a church. The pastor knew he was an atheist because he had tried to talk to him about spiritual matters, only to be told by the man that he didn't believe in God. One day a fire broke out in the church. The church bell was rung to summon the townspeople to form a bucket brigade. And there up front in the line right next to the preacher was the town atheist passing buckets of water to the preacher. The preacher said to him, "Man, this is the first time I ever saw you at church, I'm surprised." The atheist answered, "This is the first time I've ever seen fire in this church."

This may well be said of many churches simply because the "signs of the times" have crept in and have kept out the things of God. Our Scripture this morning is an interesting one in many ways. We read simply, (Read verses 12 & 13). This is just a simple case of Jesus healing a man with leprosy. But hidden within this portion of Scripture are two unique things.

The first is, that Jesus was being hounded by people. Luke tells us in the 4th chapter, verse 42, (Read this). And then he begins the 5th chapter with the words, (Read verses 1-3).

Then is recorded the healing of the man with leprosy and Jesus tells him, "And He ordered him to tell no one," ~~*xxxxxxx~~, verse 14A.

But that did no good because Luke then tells us, "But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and great multitudes were gathering to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses." verse 15.

How did Jesus handle this? He was living in ~~xxxx~~ an age when people sought out those who had new ideas or new teachings. His fame had spread far and wide because as the Gospel writers tell us, "No man ever spoke like this man." His methods, His message were new and different. And people then as now seek to be entertained, to be in on the "in" things, and to be able to tell their friends and relatives, "Well I was there in person." But Jesus knew that He couldn't physically put up with the thronging crowds day after day without a special strength. That is why it is no surprise that Luke records, "But He Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray," verse 16.

Luke is also saying the same thing in chapter 4, verse 42A, (read this). In the 6th chapter, verse 12 we read, "And it was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God."

He would often "Slip Away." We in the church of Jesus Christ can do no less than our Master. We must seek to make prayer a vital part of our lives. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~.

(Illustration of young man in lumber camp cutting trees)

Some years ago a young man approached the foreman of a logging crew and asked for a job.

"That depends," replied the foreman. "Let's see you fell this tree." The young man stepped forward and skillfully felled a great tree. Impressed, the foreman exclaimed, "Start Monday. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday rolled by, and Thursday afternoon the foreman approached the young man and said, "You can pick up your paycheck on the way out today."

Startled, he replied, "I thought you paid on Friday." "Normally we do," answered the foreman, "but we're letting you go today because you've fallen behind. Our daily felling charts show that you've dropped from first place on Monday to last on Wednesday." "But I'm a hard worker," the young man objected. "I arrive first, leave last, and even have worked through my coffee breaks." The foreman, sensing the boy's integrity, thought for a minute and then asked, "Have you been sharpening your ax?" The young man replied, "I've been working too hard to take the time."

Have we been too busy in the church to sharpen our axes? We fail in the church because we do not take the time to "Slip Away" from the hustle and bustle of everyday life to spend time with God. And I don't mean coming to church on Sunday morning. We should do that and I'm thankful that you do. But how about during the week at work, at school, at home, how much time do we spend "Slipping Away" to privately speak with God? We must pray because of what prayer does to us.

Then we must pray because of what prayer does in the church.

(Illustration of Pastor Zebedayo Idu in Zaire, Africa)

In late 1964 the communist rebels had taken the town of Bunia in Zaire, Africa. They were arresting and executing anyone they thought to be "enemies of the revolution." One of their intended victims was to be Pastor Zebedayo Idu who was taken from his home next to the church. The day after his arrest was to be a great political holiday in which speeches were to be given in front of the statue of Patrice Lumumba who was the spiritual leader of the revolution. The prisoners were then to be executed in front of the statue. The next day the prisoners were loaded onto a truck to be driven to their execution by firing squad. But "mysteriously" the truck would not start. They were compelled to push the truck which started only to stall in front of the police commissioner's office. It was late and the furious official lined the prisoners up and had them count off "one-two, one-two," and then had all the number ones to march double-time to the monument where they were killed in volleys of gunfire. The number twos, including Pastor Zebedayo Idu were marched back to their cells where they listened to the firing squad and wondered why they had been spared. Pastor Zebedayo took this opportunity to speak to the prisoners about Christ and eight of them accepted Christ as Savior. Hardly had he finished speaking when a breathless, excited messenger came to the door with an order, "The pastor has been arrested by mistake. He is to be released at once." Pastor Zebedayo said farewell to the other prisoners and ran to his house next to the church. There, gathered in the house of God, was his little congregation on their knees praying earnestly for his release.

Stories such as these thrill us at the power of prayer. But it's nothing new and can happen in our lives if only we would cultivate "Slipping Away" as Jesus showed us by His example. This doesn't mean going off to a favorite spot in the woods, or in another room away from everyone. It merely means to separate ourselves from the things of life which crowd out prayer. We can do this in our office at our desk, in school, in our homes and any other place. William Carey was called, "The father of modern missions." Yet, how many people know that he had a paralyzed, bed-ridden sister who prayed for him for fifty years? Prayer can make things happen in

the church.

And then we must pray because Jesus prayed. He taught us the importance of prayer but the church in many instances has not taken this seriously.

(Illustration of 11th century king, King Henry III of Germany and obedience)

The 11th century German king, King Henry III, who grew tired of court life and the pressures of being a king, applied to a monastery to be accepted for a life of contemplation. Prior Richard the religious superior of the monastery asked him, "Your majesty, do you understand that the pledge here is one of obedience? That will be hard because you have been a king." Henry replied, "I understand. The rest of my life I will be obedient to you, as Christ leads you." "Then I will tell you what to do," said Prior Richard. "Go back to your throne and serve faithfully in the place where God has placed you." When King Henry III died, a statement was written, "The King learned to rule by being obedient."

Too often, within the church we look at what someone else is able to do and accomplish and our response is, "I wish I could be a preacher and then I could pray; or, "I wish I was a missionary and then I could do things for God." We need to know that God has placed us where we are. He has brought us together in this congregation. Our response needs to be one of, "I'll be obedient where I am Lord, just show me what You want me to do." We need to practice "Slipping Away" in order to be obedient. Jesus taught the art of "Slipping Away," not only by example but in His teaching. In the Sermon on the Mount in the 6th chapter of Matthew He taught, in verse 6, "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, and when you have shut the door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you."

In the King James Version it reads, "Go into your closet." Many people erroneously believe that means you need to slip away from everything and everybody in order to pray. Jesus didn't actually mean a secret room. He simply meant to shut out the world where you are and pray. This can be done at your desk at work, at the sink washing dishes, at your desk at school, in the mill, driving down the road and anywhere, without even shutting your eyes. If we practice this we will learn the secret of "Slipping Away" as the Lord taught us. But we will also learn what prayer can do to us, and what it can do to the church.

Perhaps you have never prayed much because you think it requires a special education or training. Or, you may never have taken the time to do it because you may think it requires lots of time. Whatever your situation may be this morning accept the Lord's invitation to "Slip Away" from the everyday world and life and draw nigh unto Him. And then watch what He will do in your life.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor May 6, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Acolytes: Toni Jo Patsy and Meron Hewis
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 528 "God of Grace and God of Glory"
*Ascription
*Exhortation
*Confession (In Unison) We offer you our thanks O God,
for the rising of our Lord. But we also know we must
come to you in confession. We confess our unwilling-
ness at times to follow our Lord. We confess as well
our willingness to sin even when we know we shouldn't.
Forgive us Lord, cleanse us and renew us, for we
pray in His name. Amen.
*Kyrie
*Assurance of Pardon
*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.
*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment
Hymn No. 601 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.
Morning Prayer
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"
Paul & Donna Williams
Scripture: Luke 11: 1-13
Sermon: "Grade Levels"
*Invitational Hymn No. 519 "Savior, Again to Thy Dear
Name We Raise"

*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
The Campbell Family in memory of Harvey Campbell.
Mrs. Gladys Fair will greet our members and guests at
the door this morning.
Ushering today are Marty Henry, Walter Hollefreund,
John Snow and Jeff Snyder.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Sue Davis.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Jim Gannon.
Attendance last Sunday was 86 with 6 visitors.
Bonnie Gannon and Marge Smiley will be visiting the
hospital this week.

> Hospitalized: Dutch Bolam in West Penn in Pittsburgh
Harold and Eleanor Peters in BMH. -OUT

SCHEDULE OF THIS WEEK:

> Sunday - Bible Study at 7 P.M.
> Tuesday - Elders & Deacons Training Class at 7 P.M.
Sunday School Teachers Meeting at 7 P.M.
> Wednesday - Ladies Spring Banquet at 6 P.M. Bring a
tureen and table service for everyone that
is attending with you. This is open to all
women of the church and their guests.
Meat, dessert, and beverage will be provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS: *PART BLOW MAY 20 - 50 SUNDAY LUNCHEON*
> May 13th - The Youth will be conducting the service of
worship at 11:00 A.M.

> May 14th - VBS meeting at 7 P.M. This is very important
and we need all teachers, helpers, and any
one that is working with VBS there!!!!

> TV Lay Readers are needed for May 30th and June 6th. This
is for the TV tapings done at St. Paul's Catholic church.
If you would do this for us, please see the Pastor.

> The Butler Fellowship of Churches is holding its annual
fellowship dinner on May 10th. If you would like to
attend please see the office. The tickets at \$6.00 each.
We need to know by Monday if at all possible.

Rev. Link has just completed his TV taping series. He will
be on TV the week of May 20th.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate or to seek counseling.
The Pastor will assist you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - APRIL 20, 1997

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

ANSWERED PRAYERS THIS WEEK?????

BIRTHDAYS - TWILA 22nd, LAIRD 24th

**HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 11:1-13

ANTHEM

SERMON: "GRADE LEVELS"

BUTLER, ST. PAUL'S - ~~5/6/90~~ 5/6/90

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

TONY

MARTHA

UNSPOKEN - JO ANN

PAULINE

SCRIP: LK 11:1-13; SERM: "GRADE LEVELS"

(ILUS BOY, FIRST DAY OF SKUL ' NO GO BAK 2MORROW)

ED IS LERN PROCESS & ED VITAL TO ALL

DICIPS OF JS NOTIC HE IN HABIT OF PRAY & SO WE READ -----

VS 1=REQUEST 2B TAUT HOW TO PRAY

VSS 2-4=JS GIVS "A" MODEL 4PRAYR - NOT "THE" PRAYR, BUT "MODEL"

THIS IS A PATTERN FOR PRAYR

(EXEGETE ON THIS PRAYER & BASIC OUTLINE)

WE CUD CAL THIS SECTIN OF SCRIP - "GOD'S SKUL OF PRAYER"

EXAMPL=LERN READ, ARITHMETIC, WRITING, ETC -GRAD SKUL LEVEL

THEZ & L'S PRAYR JUS START PTS, JS KNO THIS & THEN GIV PARABL --

VSS 5-7=PEO NO TRAVL NITE-BUT IF DID, WUD STOP AT FREND'S HOUS

REASNS NO OPEN=DANGER, FAMLY HUDL 4WARMTH, DISTURB OTHRS, animals

VS 8=IMPORTUNITY=PERSISTENCE, URGE/ENTREAT PERSIST

MAN NO TAK NO 4ANSR - & SO FREND GIV BCUZ PERSISTENC IN ASK

VS 9=THIS HI SKUL LEVEL - WE KNO FORMULA 4PRAYR & ASK AGIN/AGIN

NOT MEAN TRY BEND G'S WIL 2OURS, BUT CUM, ASK, ASK, ASK IN FAITH,

& HE WIL ANSR AS HE WILLS

(ILUS BOY FITE, GET BEAT, BUT DETERMIND 2WIN)

IF PRAY PERSISTENTLY CAN KNO G WIL ANSR - BUT MUS CONTINU 2PRAY

VSS 11-12=JS SAY NO ERTHL'Y PARENT WUD KNOWINGLY GIV WUMTHIN 2HARM

OR HURT THER CHILDREN

THIS COLLEGE LEVEL

1st=FOUNDATIN = L'S PRAYR, MODEL FOR PRAYR

2nd=LERN 2APPLY IT, ASK AGIN & AGIN, PRAY OFTEN -PERSISTENCE

3rd=UNDERSTAND HOW GOD ANSWERS -

BUT WE MUS KNO WAT 2PRAY FOR

(ILUS REV FADNESS & PRAYR 4RECOVR OF WOMAN IN MATRNTY WARD)

OUR PRAYERS MUSB INFORMD - SPECIFIC BUT ACURATE

VS 13=THIS GRADUAT LEVEL OF PRAYER

T' POINT IS - EDUCATIN PAYS OFF - PAYS DIVIDENDS ABUV/BYON THE

WEDS EXPECTATIN OF ANWONE

G NOT ONLY ANSR'S PRAYRS, BUT PERSNL'Y CUMD IN 2 HARTS/LIVS HIS

PEOPL 2DIREC THER LIVS

WEN CUM 2 XP, RECEIV H SP

BUT H SP WILB OPERATIV & EVIDENT OUR LIVS ONLY AS WE LET HIM

HE IS THER, BUT DO WE LET HIM LEAD, DIRECT, GUIDE??????

(ILUS H SP SPK 2OLDER SISTER)

THAT IS TH/EVIDENC WAT JS WAS SAY HERE

IN PRAYRS/PRAYING H SP AWAIT 2DIREC WATEVR WAY FATHR WANTS OF
US & FROM US

BUT CANT KNO/LERN ANY OF THIS IF UNWIL 2SEEK & GET DWN 2THAT

PERSNL RELATSHIP W/GOD

HE NO STAN WAY OFF SUMWHER AWAIT SUMONS LIK DIAL PHON & WAIT

4FREND TO ANSR

HE WAIT 4U IN MIDST UR JOY/SORRO/ANGER /PAIN/SUFFRING/WATEVR

HE WANT REVEAL SELF 2U IF U WIL LET HIM -JUS LIK ALL SKULING

CAN ONLY LERN 2PRAY IF APLY WAT WE HAV LERND

WAT IS OUR GRADE LEVEL IN PRAYER/PRAYING???

LETS DETERMIN 2DAY PRAYR/PRAYING 4us INDIVID & AS CONG IS GO 2B

SUMTH EA US CONTINU 2SKUL SELVS ON

TH/INVITATIN IS - "COME UNTO ME" & I PRAY ALL US WIL ANDR THAT

INVITATIN IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHR THIS DAY & FR/NOW ON

(Ilus boy not go bak 2skul aftr 1st day)
 I'M NOT GO BAK 2SKUL 2MORROW
 & WHY NOT SON? WEL,I CANT READ,& I CANT WRIT,& THEY WONT LET
 ME TALK,SO WAT'S TH/USE?

VSS ~~xxx~~ 1-4=CudB cal G's Skul of Prayr
 this 1st grad level
 v 5-6=parabl
 vs 7=Friends respons

Js ad=Vss 9-10=this Hi Skul level

(Ilus yng boy fite,get beat,but detrm 2win)
 HEY MISTR,MIN UR OMN BUSNES. I AINT GOT MY 2ND WIND YET, & WEN I
 DO I AM GO 2CLOBBR THIS GUY.

Vss 11-12
 this Coleg Level

(Ilus Arley Fadness & prayr womn in maternty ward)
 prayd 4-G 2heal womn & spar any recurrc of ilnes

Vs 13=Graduat level
 (Ilus H Sp & oldr sistr)

"Grade Levels"

Scripture: Luke 11:1-13
 (Ilus boy 1st day skul & not going bak)
 Th/obj of ed is 4it 2B a lern proces
 ed is vitl 2evrone
 we all kno stat mandat childrn receiv educatin,but Byon that
 s peo lern in dif ways-coleg,trade skul,on-job
 Th discips Js had notic He was in habit of prayr,& they knu He sot
 F's guidanc regulrly

vss 1-4=here is wat cud cal-G's Skul of Paryr
 this part of 1st grad level & that is th/basic fundmentl patrn
 of prayr
 I sur we can all remem lern how writ in skul-lettr A,& then mak
 letttr lik one of papr jus lik it - then B & so on
 wen lern arith lern tabls lik - 1 + 1 = 2,etc.
 wen lern read it was-watch Spot run,C Spot catch ball,etc.
 ovr & ovr we wud go thru thez exerciz & stor thoz thing in our
 memry banks & refer 2them agin & agin

This prayr Js taut is th/Model 4all futur prayrs
 it duznt mean only prayr we kno & G 4bid we hav stayd at 1st gra
 lvl & can only pray=G is grt, or Now I lay me dwn 2sleep,etc.
 Js nevr ment L's Prayr 2B only prayr we pray
 He ment as patrn
 we recogniz G as F,& pray thus:we recogniz only fr/Him can we
 receiv nesestys of lif,& we pray thus
 we recogniz need 2cum 2Him 4-4givnes 8f selvs & othrs,& pray
 we recogniz mus pray in G's wil & pray thus

But that only start pt & altho we cum bak 2 th/basics ovr & ovr
 agin,we wud nevr seek 2hav childrn go thru 1st grad yr aftr yr
 Js kno this realty tolr discips parbl bout a frend of a frend

Vss 5-6
 frends respons is=Vs 7
 i read this may seem lik lam excus,but fac is frend justify in
 refus help frend
 wud bin unusul sumone 2B knok frends door midnite
 peo stop B4 dark & made arngmens 4lodg wen travl
 but supos man out & sum unkno reasn no stop,& logicl plac lk 4
 fud & lodg wudB fr/frend
 & lat at nite only frend wud opn door once shut
 but othr reasn as wel-th/famly slep hudl 2gethr 4warmth & any-
 ne aris disturb othrs & that why Js say=vs 7B - READ
 one othr reasn Bcuz livstok in hous & anyone setup disturb famly
 or animls,or both,so can C why awaknd man no want 2B disturub
 so Js say=Vs 8-IMPORTUNITY = persistence
 Bcuz this man pers,no tak no 4ansr man wil giv bred as ask
 th/man wudB pers due 2fac hospitbl thing 2do was 2feed gests
 no mattr wen ariv
 2do les was 2B considr poor host & inhospitbl

Js add=Vss 9-10
 this Hi skul lvl=we kno formula 4prayr & keep aply ovr & ovr
 agin

du we R try 2bend G's wil 2ours, but duz mean we cum 2/
2Him in faith kno He wil giv ansr as He wils
(Ilus yng boy fite, get beat, but detrm wil win)
we may not B in control circums, but if pray consistnly we can kno
sumhow G wil ansr - but mus pray & continu 2pray
Vss 11-12=Js mak cp tween G th/F & ethtly fathr
say if erthly parents wud not knowingly giv childrn anyth wud
harm them, hurt them
This Coleg levl
1st fndatin
then lern aply it & now undrst how G ansrs,
but mus kno wat pray for
(Ilus Rev. Arley Fadness & prayr 4womn maternly ward)
our prayrs need 2B informd
but in G's Skul of Prayr ther graduat levl also
Js conclud portin Scrip - Vs 13
pt here is Ed pay off; pays dividends abuv & Byon wildes expecs of
anyone
G not only ansrs our prayrs, but persnly cums in 2 th/harts/livs
of His peo 2direc ther livs
wen cum 2Xp we receiv H Sp
but H Sp wil only B as opertiv/eviden in our livs as we let Him
He's ther, but do we let Him direc, lead, & guid??
(Ilus H Sp spk 2 oldr sistr)
Now that is evidenc of wat Js say here
in our prayrs & praying, th/H Sp awaits 2direc us in watever way
th/F wants of us & from us
but we cant kno or lern any of this if we R unwil 2seek 2get dwn
2that persnl relatship w/G
He no stan off sumplac await Ur sumons much lik wud dial phon 2tal
2frend who ansr
He is w/U, merely await 2spk 2U in midst Ur joy/soro, pain/suffr
want reveal self 2U, but only wil if U let Him
jus as we lern A, B, C's, & aply them 2lern read/writ, so we can lern
about prayr & praying only if we aply wat we lernd
Wat is Ur Grad Level
I trus it no stop w/Now I lay me dwn 2sleep stage
but has cum 2plac of Grad levl wher U R B led by & kno H Sp
work thru & w/in Ur lif
Det us detrm 2day that prayr 4us indivdly & as cong is go 2B
sumth ea us continues 2skul slvs on
His invitatin is=Cum unto Me & I pray that all us wil ansr that
invitatin in one way or nothr this day

"Grade Levels"

Scripture: Luke 11:1-13

(Illustration of boy, first day at school, and not going back tomorrow)

A small boy came home from his first day in school. He was almost in tears and he spluttered, "I'm not going to school tomorrow." "And why not, Son?" his mother asked.

"Well, I can't write and I can't read, and they won't let me talk, so what's the use?"

The object of education is for it to be a learning process. Education is vital to anyone.

We all know that the state mandates that our children receive an education. But beyond that, most people desire to learn a variety of different things by taking either additional courses at different institutions, or by being taught by a friend or relative. The Disciples of Jesus had noticed that He was in the habit of praying. They knew that He sought His Father's guidance frequently. So it comes as no surprise that Luke writes, "Now it came to pass, that, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.' And He said unto them, 'When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.'" verses 1-4.

Here is what we could call "God's School of Prayer." This part of it is the First Grade Level. This is the basic, fundamental pattern of prayer. I'm sure we can all remember learning how to write in school. When we knew what the letter "A" was, then we had to write an "A" after the one of the paper in front of us. Then it was a "B" and then a "C" and so on. When we learned arithmetic it was the scales, $1 + 1 = 2$, and so on. We read, "See Spot run. See Spot catch the ball," and so on. Over and over we would go through these exercises and we stored those things in our memory banks and refer to them again and again. This prayer is the model for all future prayers. It doesn't mean this is the only prayer we know. God forbid that we have stayed at the first grade level and can only pray at meals, "Go is great," or at bedtime, "Now I lay me down to sleep." Jesus never meant what we call "The Lord's Prayer" to be the only prayer we ever pray. He meant it as a pattern. We recognize God as our Father, and we pray thus. We recognize that only from Him can we receive the necessities of life, and we pray thus. We recognize that we need to come to Him for forgiveness and we pray for ourselves and our enemies forgiveness, and we pray thus. And we recognize that what we pray for must be according to God's will, and we pray for things in His will. But that's only the starting point. Although we come back to the basics over and over again, we would never seek to have our children go through the first grade year after year.

Jesus knowing this reality told His disciples a parable about a friend of a friend. He put it this way, (read verses 5 & 6). The friend's response is, "And he from within shall answer and say, 'Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee,'" verse 7.

When we read this it may seem like this is a lame excuse. But the fact of the matter is, that this friend was justified in refusing to help his friend. It would have been unusual for someone to be knocking on a friend's door at midnight. People stopped before dark to make arrangements for lodging when they were traveling. But suppose a man was out and for some unknown reason didn't stop, the logical place to seek food and lodging would be from a

friend. And late at night only a friend would open the door because once the door was shut for the night people didn't open it. But there were other reasons as well. The family all slept huddled together for warmth and anyone arising from the mat would disturb all the others. That is why Jesus said the man answered, "My children are in bed with me; I cannot arise and give thee," verse 7B.

One other reason perhaps was because it was also customary for many people to bring the livestock inside for the night to keep them safe. So there may have been chickens, goats and other animals in the sleeping quarters as well. "Anyone getting up would disturb family and animals. So we can see why the awakened man did not want to get up.

So Jesus said, "I say unto you, 'Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as ~~needed~~ he needeth," verse 8.

The word used for "importunity" here actually means "persistence." So Jesus was saying that because of the man's persistence, not taking no for an answer, the man will give him the bread he is asking for. The man would be persistent due to the fact that the hospitable thing to do was to feed guests no matter what time they arrived. To do less was to be considered a poor host and inhospitable. So Jesus adds, "And I say unto you, 'Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every-one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened,'" verses 9 & 10.

This is the High School Level. We know the formula for prayer and we keep applying it again and again. This doesn't mean we are trying to bend God's will to ours. But it does mean that we come to Him in faith knowing that He will give us His answer as He wills.

(Illustration of young boy fighting, getting beaten, but determined he would win)

A man traveling down the streets of a large city stopped at a traffic light and he looked out the window and saw two boys fighting in an alley. One of the boys was a lot bigger than the other one and so he was beating the little fellow up. He would knock him down, and the little guy would get right back up only to be knocked down again. At first, the motorist wasn't going to intervene, but finally he pulled his car over, ran into the alley yelling for the bigger boy to quit beating up on the little guy. But surprisingly, the smaller boy said, "Mind your own business mister. I ain't got my second wind yet, and when I do I am going to clobber this guy."

We may not be in control of circumstances. But if we pray persistently, we can know that somehow God is going to answer. But we must pray and continue to pray.

Jesus made a comparison between God the Father and earthly fathers. He asked, "If a son ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?" verses 11 & 12.

Jesus is saying that earthly parents would not knowingly give their children anything that would harm them or hurt them. This is the College Level. First the foundation, then learning to apply it, and now understanding how God answers. But we must know what to pray for.

(Illustration of Rev. Arley Fadness & prayer for woman's recovery in maternity ward)

Rev. Ardley Fadness tells of when he was a student at Augustana Academy in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. It was the custom of students to go in small groups on Sunday afternoon to the hospital to visit the sick and take turns praying for their recovery. When it was his turn on one of these first visits, nervously, he prayed for God to heal the woman and to spare her any recurrence of the illness. After he finished his prayer and they went back into the hall he was told they were in the maternity ward.

Our prayers need to be informed.

But in God's School of ~~xxx~~ Prayer there is the Graduate Level also. Jesus concluded this portion of Scripture by saying, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" verse 13.

The point being made here is that the education pays off. It pays divideneds above and beyond the wildest expectations of anyone. God not only answers our prayers, but He personally comes into the hearts and lives of His people to direct their lives. When we ~~xxxx~~ come to Christ we receive the Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit will only be as operative and evident in our lives as we let Him. He's there, but do we let Him direct, and lead, and ~~xxxx~~ guide?

(Illustration of Holy Spirit speaking to older sister)

Two teenage sisters moved to a new community. Not having any friends there, they eagerly accepted an invitation to a Christian youth gathering. After attending several times, the older sister accepted Christ as her Savior and encouraged her younger sister to do likewise. The younger sister was still skeptical about the whole matter. Finally, as a result of the older sister's persistence, the younger sister knelt by the bed and prayed silently, "If there really is a God, then put your hand on my head so I can know it." At that very moment the older sister was impressed to place her hand on ~~xxx~~ her sister's head as she was kneeling and silently praying. Immediately the younger sister believed and when she got up from the bedside she asked her sister, "Did you put your hand on my head?" The older sister said, "Yes." ~~xxx~~ She asked, "Why did you do that?" And the older sister simply replied, "God told me to."

Now that is the evidence of what Jesus was saying here. In our prayers and praying, the Holy Spirit awaits to direct us in whatever way the Father wants of us and from us. But we can't know or learn any of this if we are unwilling to seek to get down to that personal relationship with God. He's not standing away off somewhere awaiting your summons much like you would dial the phone and await a friend to answer. He is with you merely waiting to speak to you in the midst of your joy or sorrow, or your pain and suffering. He wants to reveal Himself to you, but He only will if you will let Him. Just as we learned the A,B,C'S, and applied them to learn to read and write, so we can learn ~~xxx~~ about prayer and praying only if we apply what we have learned.

What is your "Grade Level?" I trust that it hasn't stopped at the "Now I lay me down to sleep stage," but has come to the place of the Graduate Level where you are being led by, and know the Holy Spirit working within your life.

Let us determine today that prayer for us individually and as a congregation is going to be something each of us continues to school ourselves on. His invitation is, "Come unto Me," and I pray that all of us will answer that invitation in one way or another this day.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP SERVICE May 13, 1990
Robert Weisenstein, Youth Director

Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music

Acolytes: Toni Jo Patsy and Meron Hewis

+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

Joys

Prayer Requests

*Opening Hymn No. 2 "How Great Thou Art"

*Ascription

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) Eternal Father, we want you to love us; but we have not yet learned how to love each other, even those who are as close to us as our own families. We are quick to see another's faults, but we are insensitive to their feelings. We hear others speak, but we do not listen to the deeper meanings which underline their words. We pass by those who carry heavy burdens of worry we could share, and we pay no attention. We are deaf and blind, careless and selfish. Forgive us Father, for our unnumbered sins; and teach us to love others in the true spirit of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

*Kyrle

*Assurance of Pardon

*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Poem: "For My Mother"

Adult Moment

Poem: "To Mother"

Hymn No. 6 "This Is My Father's World"

Call to Prayer: Leader - The Lord be with You

People - And with Thy Spirit

Leader - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

Poem: "You're Like a Mother to Me"

Anthem: "King of the Jungle/Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

Poem: "Mom"

Scripture: Proverbs 31: 15-31

Sermon: "Devotion of a Mother"

Poem: "Because It's Mother's Day"

*Invitational Hymn No. 634 "Oh, How I Love Jesus"

*Closing Chimes

*Prayer to Mother

*Benediction

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +
The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Campbell in memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Christy.

John Penrod of the Youth Fellowship will greet our members and guests at the door this morning.

Ushering today are Alta Kradel, Lois Stokes, Donna Stewart, and Alma Dally.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Bonnie Gannon.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Joe Youngblood.

Attendance last Sunday was 107 with 6 visitors.

Dick Mangel and Bill Snyder will be visiting the hospital

this week.
Hospitalized:

VBS meeting will be held on Monday evening at 7:00 P.M. We need all teacher, helpers, etc. there.

Laymen's Dinner will be held May 17th at 6:30 P.M. at Grace Church in Harmony. This is Ladies Night. See Jake Harmon for tickets. The price is \$5.00 each.

Next Sunday the Youth will be serving coffee and donuts after Sunday School and before church. Take a minute and have a donut with them.

Rev. Ralph Partelow will be with us next Sunday for the morning worship service. He will be leaving for Africa again in August.

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon will be sponsored by the Youth for next Sunday after church. I hope you will take the time to join us for lunch. It will also give you an opportunity to visit with Rev. Partelow.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your life. The altar is open to everyone. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling. The Pastor will assist you if you desire.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor May 20, 1990
Rev. Ralph Partelow, Guest Speaker
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Youth Director
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Acolytes: Chris Shearer and Mike Brinker
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 658 "O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission
High Fulfilling"

*Ascription
*Call to Worship:
Pastor - O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:
fear before Him all the earth.
People - Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth:
the world also shall be established that it
shall not be moved: He shall judge the
people righteously.
Pastor - For He cometh, for He cometh to judge the
earth.
People - He shall judge the world with righteousness
and the people with all His truth.

*Prayer of Invocation (In Unison) We thank Thee, our
Father, for Thy Son, who taught us that our field is
the world. We marvel how the whole world was
encompassed in His view, even as He walked within the
narrow boundaries of Palestine. We cast down our eyes
in shame, for the isolated and parochial smallness of
our own vision. Grant unto us broad vistas, that we
may see in this our age, the wide doors of opportunity
standing open before us. We pray that with the vast
means at our disposal, we may seize the opportunities
to send forth Thy truth, and participate in new and
strengthened witness, and Christian service, to the
ends of the earth; through Him, who has already gone
before us to make ready His way, we pray. Amen.

*Praise: Pastor - Blessed be the Lord God
People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142
Children's Moment — *4:11*
Hymn No. 661 "Rescue the Perishing"
Pastoral Prayer — *Ralph*
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings
Offertory

*Doxology - page 382
Anthem: "Something"
Scripture: Philippians 1: 1-11
Sermon: "Missions Is A Partnership"
*Hymn of Invitation No. 659 "We've a Story to Tell to
the Nations"

*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Marty Henry in honor of their daughter
Michelle's marriage yesterday.
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Hollefreund Jr. will greet our members
and guests at the door this morning.
Ushering today are Chuck Pedersen, Nicole Merrison, Anna
Gonzalez and Scott Bart.
Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Marge Smiley.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Mike Roper.
Attendance last Sunday was 111 with 15 visitors.
Sandy Shepeck and Kathy Goda will be visiting the
hospital this week.

> Hospitalized: Mildred Wiles in BMH.

> SOUP & SANDWICH luncheon will be served immediately
following the service today in Rehoboth Hall. This is
sponsored by the Youth Group. All proceeds from this
will go toward Rev. Partelow's missions.
We express our "thanks" to the youth for doing the
service last Sunday. Well done! We appreciate all of
your efforts and willingness to service the church.
We hope you will join the Youth between Sunday School and
Church today for some coffee and donuts. This will be
served in Rehoboth Hall.

> A Lay Reader is need for the TV taping on June 6th. If
you are interested in doing this, please see the office.

FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS BRUNS BAG LUNCH
NOON TO 1:00 PM.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor May 27, 1990
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Acolytes: Mike Brinker and Chris Shearer
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

Joys

Prayer Requests

*Processional Hymn No. 690 "America the Beautiful"

*Ascription

*Invocation

*Pledge of Allegiance to the Christian Flag

"I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag,
and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands,
one brotherhood, uniting all mankind in
service and love."

Hymn No. 687 "God of Our Fathers"

Morning Prayer

Offering

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

Anthem: "Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Scripture: Joshua 4: 1-9

Sermon: "These Stones"

"Our Memorial Day Response"

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

*Closing Hymn "God Bless America" (sing through twice)

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her, and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above
From the mountain, to the prairies, to
the oceans white with foam
God bless America, My home sweet home,
God bless America, My home sweet home.

*Taps

*Benediction

*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Gannon and family in memory of Loved Ones.
Mrs. Fanchon Hindman will greet our members and guests
at the door this morning.

Serving as Ushers today are Dick Mangel, Donley Martin,
Don Kingsley and Dick Dally.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Catherine Johnston.
Attendance last Sunday was 95 with 10 visitors.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Dick Dally.

Paul Riemer and Donley Martin will be visiting the hospital
this week.

> Hospitalized: Mildred Wiles in BMH and Harry Davis in
Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh
Mrs. Laverne Nulph in BMH

> We are in need of a Lay Reader for the TV taping on June
6th. If you would like to volunteer, please see Rev.
Link.

This week the Pastor and several men from our church will
be attending the Moody Pastor's Conference. If you have
a need or concern, please get in touch with Ginny at
the church office or at home.

> NEXT SUNDAY: Altar communion will be observed and we will
also recognize anyone graduating from high school or
college. Please get this information into the office.
At this time we have not heard of anyone graduating.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

June 4 - Benevolence Committee meeting at 7 P.M.

6 - Council meeting at 7 P.M.

> 10 - VBS Pre-registration will be held at 7 P.M.
followed with the making of a "sundae."
Come and pre-register early and have some
fun and fellowship with the VBS staff.

12 - Finance committee meeting at 7 P.M.

ELDERS - don't forget your scheduled meeting on June 7
at 6:30 P.M. This is important!!!

Have a safe and happy holiday weekend!

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - JUNE 5, 1994

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

*HYMN
RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE
OFFERING/PRAYER
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN
SCRIPTURE: JOSHUA 4:1-9
SERMON: "THESE STONES" - ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 5/2790
*HYMN
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE

UNSPOKEN
CATHY
LAIRD
HEIKER / BILLY

SCRIP: JOSHUA 4:1-9; Sermon: "THESE STONES"

(ILUS YNG BOY & WASH MONUMENT)

HERE IN SCRIP EXAMP G DIREC HIS PEO SET ASID MEMORIAL
G TUK GRT CARE INFORM PEO IMPORT OF WAT THEY DID
2 MILLION PEO, INCLUD WOMN/CHILDREN CAM EDG RIV JORD FLUD STAGE
TH L DIREC PRIEST BEAR ARK-STEP INTO WATER
4OMN NO MAK SENS, BUT THEN G DUZNT ALWAY DO LOGICL THINGS
ISITES LERN THISON DIF CCASINS-RED SEA, & NOW TH/JORDAN
THIS OCASIN ISITES WER 2MARK CROSSING AS REMINDR FUTUR GENRATINS
VSS 1-3=TH/ORDERS TO MARK THIS CROSSING AS REMINDER
VSS 4-5=JOSHUA DID AS G CAOMND

THIS NOT JUS ONE STONE=~~WNTIXXENEX~~ BUT 12 STONES
THIS WAY EA TRIBE HAD PART THIS MEM

VS 6=REASON TO DO THIS

VS 7=ANSWER TO QUESTIN BOUT THIS

VS 8=PEO OREDIENT

VS 9=THEZ 12 DIF STONES

VS 9B=THEZ AT TIME JOSH WRITE

THEN READ ON PRIESTS CAM UP OUT OF WATR AFTR PEO ALL PASS OVER
VS 19=ALL ON DRY GROUND

VS 20=JOSHUA ERECT MEM OF 12 STONES

VSS 21-24=JOSH AGIN INSTRUC

EXAMPL LIBERAL BIB SCHOLAR & INCIDENT DIDNT HAV MUCH MEANING
REASON=HISTRY OF JEWS TUK PLACE FAR REMOV FR/JORDN RIVER
JN BAP MINSTRY TUK PLACE HERE

JS WAS BAPTIZD HERE

MAYBE MEM MIDL RIVER WASH AWAY W/ELUDS

VERY POSIBL MEM ON LAND THER WEN JS BAPTIZED
ANYONE SEE THOZ STONES MAY WEL ASK = WAT MEAN THEZ STONES??

JOSH 4 SEE THIS & WROT VS 21

WAT MEAN THEZ STONES??

2REASONS BOTH SPERITUL

FIRST=PEO WUD KNO WHO G IS

RED SEA PRUV G, & THIS EVENT PRUV G AGIN

VS 23=MIRAC EVENTS & ONLY SUPRNATURAL PERSN CUD DO THIS

SECOND=DEMONSTRAT THOZ BLONG 2 GOD ARE FREE

G CREAT MAN 2B FREE & HAS EVR BIN HIS WIL MAN B FREE

BUT IN ORDER 2B FREE THER IS A PRICE 2B PAID

JS SED=U SHAL KNO TH/TRUTH & TH/TRUTH SHAL SET U FREE

WE KNO TRUTH THRU HIM & HE PAID PRICE 4US 2KNO TH/TRUTH

THAT PRICE WAS HIS DETH ON TH/CROSS

HE WAS OBEDIENT, EVEN TO DETH ON TH/CROSS AS P STATE IT

OBEDIENCE IS WAT G WANTS FR/THOZ WHO FOLO HIM

IT MEANS SACRIFIC & DENIAL OF TH/LURES OF TH/WORLD

(ILUS OF G. WASHINGTON & SPEECH TO MEN ON HAY ISLAND)

SATIRASTIC REMARK=MEM DAY GIVS US WEEKEND SO CAN HAV 3DAYS OF
BLUE LIGHT SPECIALS

"THIS LIBERTY WILL LOOK EASY WHEN NOBODY DIES TO GET IT."

WHAT MEAN THESE STONES???

D-DAY & STONES IN CEMETARIES IN EUROPE & AMERICA

EACH STONE IS REMINDER OF A LIFE LIVED & OF TH/PRICE PAID FOR
OUR FREEDOM

BUT UNFORTUNATELY, IT HAS BCUM A FREDUM 2FORGET WAT FREDUM COSTS

(ILUS GRAVE OF FORGOTTEN SOLDIER'S GRAVE)

G DIDNT WANT HIS PEO 2FORGET WAT THER FREEDOM COST

THEY SET UP MEM KNOWN ONLY AS =THESE STONES

WE R REMIND OF OUR FREEDOM BY OBSERV OF D-DAY REMINDERS & OTHR
BATTLES

BUT WE NEED 2B REMIND OF OUR FREEDOM WH/HAS BIN BOT & PAID FOR
W/THE BLOOD OF JS XP

WE NEED TO THANK G 4 TH/FREEDOM WH/IS OURS THRU XP

THER IS NO STON 2MARK THAT DETH & WE CAN ONLY PICTUR A CROSS
ON A HILL

AND WAT MEANS THAT CROSS???

GREATER LUV HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS
LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS

(Ilus boy & Wash Mon) - Judg Jn Lomenzo
THEY'LL NEVER GET IT OFF THE GROUND

Vss 1-3=mark cros as remndr

Vss 4-5=Josh did as G comand

Vr =futer quest

Vs 7=ansr

Vs 8=Obed

Vs 9=Expl 2dif monuments
9B - at tim of writ

Vs 19=pr's cam out of watr

Vs 20=Josh erc stones

Vss 21-24=Josh 4thr instrucs peo
(Examl librl scholr & this hav no mean futr events)
In Bap & Js baptizd

WAT MEAN THEZ STONES???? - 2 meanings I Bliev

FIRST:

peo wud kno who G is -

Vs 25=testimonial wat G did

SECOND

Js wed=YB SHAL KNO TH/TRUTH & TH/TRUTH SHAL SET U FREE

(Ilus G Wash, Hay Island & Rev War)

I PROM THOZ WHO WIL POLO ME FURTHER, NO CHANC OF VICTRY, 4 BY MY G,
I SEE NUN: NO GLORY OR GAIN, OR LAURLS RETURNING HOM, BUT RATHER
WINDS & DETH, COLD & DISEAS & HUNGR, & WINTRS 2CUM SUCH AS THIS,
W/OUR BLUDY TRAIL IN TH/SNO, & NO END 2IT TILL U SHOVL EA OTHR
IN W/THOZ AT VALY FORG

As th/weary soldiers prepar'd 2bury a ded comrad, Gen Wash faced
them w/thotful & bitt'r words:

THIS LIBERTY WIL IK EASY BY & BY WEN NOBODY DYS 2 GET IT

Mem weekedn givs us 3 days of Bue Lite Specials

(Ilus soldier & grav no flag, flowrs)

Memorial was known as =THESE STONES

we remind cost freedom by Mem Day, need 2B remind freedom hav
thru Js Xp

this holiday, this wkend need thank G 4freedom as natin,
but especially freedom wh/curs thru Js Xp

Our Memorial Day Response

In May of 1865 it was decreed by a Genral Logan that all of the
graves of Union soldiers be decorated - thus Decoration Day

In the National Cemetary at Arlington, Va across the Potomac
River from Washington the first formal observance of the day
w held, May 30, 1868

The speaker was General James A Garfield a member of the House
of Representatives and later President of the United States.

A gifted orator he said among other things:

IF SILENCE IS EVER GOLDEN, IT MUST BE HERE BESIDE THE GRAVES OF
FIFTEEN THOUSAND MEN WHOSE LIVES WERE MORE SIGNIFICANT THAN
SPEECH AND WHOSE DEATH WAS A POEM THE MUSIC OF WHICH CAN NEVER
BE SUNG. WITH WORDS WE MAKE PROMISES, FLIGHT FAITH, PRAISE VIR-
TUE. PROMISES MAY NOT BE KEPT; FLIGHTED FAITH MAY BE BROKEN;
AND VAUNTED VIRTUE BE ONLY THE CUNNING MASK OF VISE. WE DO NOT
KNOW ONE PROMISE THESE MEN MADE, ONE PLEDGE THEY GAVE, ONE WORD
THEY SPOKE; BUT WE DO KNOW THEY SUMMED UP AND PERFECTED BY ONE
EXTREME ACT, THE HIGHEST VIRTUES OF MEN AND CITIZENS. FOR LOVE
OF COUNTRY THEY ACCEPTED DEATH, AND THUS RESOLVED ALL DOUBTS,
AND MADE IMMORTAL THEIR PATRIOTISM AND VIRTUE.

IF EACH GRAVE HAD A VOICE TO TELL US WHAT ITS SILENT TENANT
LAST SAW AND HEARD ON EARTH WE MIGHT STAND, WITH UNCOVERED
HEADS, AND HEAR THE WHOLE STORY OF THE WAR....WHAT OTHER SPOT
SO FITTING FOR THEIR LAST RESTING PLACE AS THIS, UNDER THE SHAD-
OF THE CAPITOL SAVED BY THEIR VALOR? HERE, WHERE THE GRIM EDGE
OF BATTLE JOINED; HERE, WHERE ALL THE HOPE AND FEAR AND AGONY OF
THEIR COUNTRY CENTERED; HERE LET THEM REST, ASLEEP ON THE NAT-
ION'S HEART, ENTOMBED IN THE NATION'S LOVE.

Later, around 1882 the name was changed from Decoration Day to
Memorial Day. Will Carleton wrote a poem which was read at
at all observances. He called it, "Cover Them Over With
Beautiful Flowers"

Cover them over with beautiful flowers,
Deck them with garlands, those brothers of ours,
Lying so silent by night and by day,
Sleeping the years of their manhood away.
Give them the meed they have won in the past;
Give them the honors their future forecast;
Give them the chaplets they won in the strife;
Give them the laurels they lost with their life.

Chorus - Cover them over, yes, cover them over,
Parent and husband, brother and lover,
Crown in your hearts those dead heroes of ours,
Cover them over with beautiful flowers.

"These Stones"

Scripture: Joshua 4:1-9

(Ilus of boy and Washington Monument)

This exampl why G had peo Is. mark cros of Jordn as they did.
& it examp why Josh tuk partic care 2inform peo of import of
wat they did

2mil peo, includ men/womn/childrn cym 2edg Jord R wen flud
w/L direc pr who bear Ark shud step in2 Rivr

th/coman no mak sens, but then G duant alway do wat logicl
& Isites lerned this on sevrل previis ocasins

Jus as G caus Red Sea stop flo, so stop Jordn 2ceas jus as wel
but on this ocasin Isites wer 2mark this cros as remindr 2all
futur genratins

So Josh writes=Vss 1-3=READ

then read Josh did wat G comand him 2do-Vss 4-5=READ

Notic=thi not jus one ston rep all them, it 12-one fr/ea trib
in this way all th/natin had a representatin in this mem.

Josh awar tim wud cum wen childrn gro up wud quest why men had
bin observ so Josh expl-Vs 6=READ

th/reasn 4 th/stons is as a mem Bcuz wat G did morac & Josh ~~xxx~~
stat this in Vs 7=READ

& then read peo obed-Vs 8=READ

Vs 9=read Josh had 12 ston raised Mid Jordn=(Expl 2 mems)

Josh wrot of this- Vs 6B - & thi tru of wen wrt
as read on in chap C pr cam out of watr afr peo pas ovr & in
Vs 19 - READ

Vs 20 - read of Josh erec mem of 12 stons

Josh agin instruc concern quest of ther childrn & th/reasn 4
do this in Vss 21-24 - READ

(Expl librl scholr & no Bliev this inciden had much mean, Bcuz
mos histry tak plac Byon this area

he ovrlk Jn Bap minstry & Js bap at this plac)

welB mem in mid Rivr bin swep away by tim Jn/Js cam on scen
but I wud speculat othr mem on bank of Jordn was stil ther

WAT MEAN THEZ STONES? - ther R perhap many means we cud aply
But I Bliev t~~her~~ R 2basic reasns givn - both of them R spiritul
FIRST=that peo of Is wud kno who G is
th/only othr ocasin when th/then kno worl had kno of such mirac
event was wen Isites cam out of ~~Rxxxx~~ Egypt & Red Sea partd
so they cud cros

Now who cud do such a mity deed?

only One who was completly suprnatural

all th/othr so calld="gods of man"nevr perform any mirac feats
such as this

this pruvd that G of Isites was 4real & this is th/testimonial
wh/Josh giv peo as read Vs 23=READ

SPCOND:=2nd reasn was 2demstrat thoz who Blong 2-G R free
G

atd man 2B free

2/

as evr bin His wil His peo shudB free

but in odr 2B free ther ~~ix~~ was a pric 2B pd
that pric alway has bin & wilB Obedienc

Th/Isites wer askd 2obey & G sed wud do wondrus things 4them
this was mirac examp of fulfil that prom

freedm coasts & this freedm no exceptin

Js sed=YE SHAL KNO TH/TRUTH & TH/TRUTH SHAL SET U FREE

He was the/truth & in odr 2hav th/freedm He prom it cost lif of
disciplshps: ~~xxxxxx~~ of obed 2 Him

2do that means th/sacr of th/lur of th/worl & all its charms
out natin was fnded upon th/truth of folo G & America Bcam fre
(Ilus Geo Wash Hay Is~~land~~ & stament bout peo 4get)

Sumone sarcastcly sed=Mem Day givs us wkend so can hav 3days of
Blue Lite Specils

"this librtly wil lk easy wen nobody has 2dy 2get it"

How tru thoz words

Wat Mean Thez Stones?? - ea ston in ea cemtry is th/mem of a lif
livd upon this erth

thoz stons wh/mark th/gravs of soldiers who dyd in battl R a mem
of th/pric pd 4freedm

unfortunatly, it had Bcam our freedm 2 4get wat our freedm cost
(Ilus of soldier's grav unmarkd by flag/flowers)

G didnt want His peo 2 4get th/freedm wh/was thers afr they cam
in2 th/promisd land

they set up this mem simply kno as=THEZ STONES

we R remd of th/cost of our freedm as observ days such as Mem
Day

But we need 2B remind in our ch's of th/cost of th/freedm we hav
thru Js Xp

He gav Himself completly so that we can hav that specil relats~~hi~~
p

his holiday, this wkend, we need 2thank G 4 th/freedm we enjoy
as a natin, but especily th/freedm wh/ours thru Js Xp

"These Stones"

Scripture: Joshua 4:1-9

(Illustration of boy and remark about Washington Monument)

Judge John Lomenzo took a friend's young son on a sight-seeing tour of Washington, D.C. When they got to the Washington Monument the space-aged, missile minded young boy stared at it for a while and then said, "They'll never get it off the ground."

This is an example of why God had the people of Israel mark the crossing of the Jordan as they did. And it is an example of why Joshua took particular care to inform the people of the importance of what they were doing.

About two-million people, including the women and children had come to the edge of the Jordan River when it was at flood stage. The Lord had directed that the priests bearing the Ark of the Covenant should step into the River. The command didn't make much sense, but then God doesn't always do what seems to be the most logical. And the Israelites had learned this lesson on several previous occasions. Just as God had caused the Red Sea to stop flowing, so He caused the River Jordan to cease as well. But on this occasion the Israelites were to mark this crossing as a reminder to all future generations. So ~~xxx~~ Joshua writes, (Read verses 1-3). Then we read that Joshua did what God had commanded him to do, (Read verses 4 and 5). Notice, that this was not to be just one stone to represent all of the nation of Israel, but it was to be 12 stones, one from each tribe. In this way ALL of the nation had a representation in this memorial.

Joshua was aware that a time would come when the children growing up would question why this memorial had been observed. So Joshua explains, (Read verse 6). The reason for the stones is as a memorial because of what God did miraculously and Joshua states this in the 7th verse, (Read this verse). Then we read that the people were obedient, (verse 8, Read this), and we read that Joshua had 12 stones raised in the middle of the Jordan. At this point we need to add that these are not the same 12 stones spoken of thus far in this chapter. Actually there were two piles of stones set up as a memorial. The twelve men chosen to carry the stones across the Jordan did so. But Joshua also had 12 stones taken from the riverbed at the place where that Ark sat while the people were crossing over. Joshua then took those stones, (and probably with others as a substructure), raised those 12 stones above the water to be seen by any and all who passed that this was a special memorial. Joshua writing of this says simply, "And they are there unto this day," verse 9B. As of when he wrote this, the stones in the middle of the River Jordan were still there.

Reading on in this chapter we see that the priests came out of the water after the people had all passed over and in the 19th verse we read, "And the people came up out of Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and encamped in Gilgal, in the east border of Jericho," verse 19.

Now, we read of Joshua erecting the memorial of the 12 stones taken from the River Jordan by a member of each of the 12 tribes, (Read verse 20). Joshua again instructs concerning the questioning of their children and the reason for doing this as we read in verses 21-24.

Incidentally, I happened to be reading what some liberal Biblical scholar had to say about this incident, and his statement had to do with ~~xxxxxxx~~ his thinking that this incident didn't

most of
have much meaning, because the history of the Jews took place far removed from the Jordan River. But what this man was not taking into consideration was that the ministry of John the Baptist took place in this stretch of the Jordan and it was here that Jesus was baptized. It may well be that the monument in the middle of the Jordan had been swept away by the flood waters of the Jordan by the time John and Jesus came on the scene. But I would be willing to speculate that the memorial on the bank of the Jordan was still there.

"What mean These Stones?" There are perhaps many meanings we could apply. But I believe there are two basic reasons given. Both of them are spiritual. The first is that the people of Israel would know who God is. The only other occasion where the then known world had known of such a miraculous event was when the Israelites came out of Egypt and the Red Sea was parted so they could cross. Now who could do such a mighty deed? Only One who was completely supernatural. All of the other so called gods of man never performed any miraculous feats such as this. This proved that the God of the Israelites was for real. This testimonial is what Joshua is giving the people as we read in the 23rd verse, (Read this). The second reason was to demonstrate that those who belonged to God were free. God created man to be free. It has ever been His will that His people should be free. But in order to be free, there was a price to be paid. That price always was and always will be obedience. The Israelites were asked to obey and God said He would do wondrous things for them. This was a miraculous example of the fulfillment of that promise. But freedom costs, and this freedom was no exception. Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free."

He was the truth and in order to have the freedom He promised it costs a life of discipleship; of obedience to Him. To do that means the sacrifice of the lure of the world and all its charms. Our nation was founded upon the truth of following God and America became free.

(Illustration of George Washington and future cost of freedom)

On Hay Island during the Revolutionary War some hungry and dispirited ~~men~~ soldiers dragged themselves and their wounded comrades into an old barn. The tide of battle was against them and they were discouraged. At that moment General George Washington entered the barn and gave them the truth about their situation. He said, "I promise those who will follow me further, no chance of victory, for by my God, I see none; no glory or gain, or laurels returning home, but rather wounds and death, cold and disease and hunger, and winters to come such as this, with our bloody trail in the snow, and no end to it till you shovel each other in with those at Valley Forge!"

As the weary soldiers prepared to bury a dead comrade, General Washington faced them with thoughtful and bitter words: "This liberty will look easy by and by when nobody dies to get it."

Someone sarcastically said recently, "Memorial Day gives us a weekend so we can have three days of Blue Light specials." "This liberty will look easy when nobody dies to get it." How true those words. "What mean These Stones?" Each stone in each cemetery is the memorial of a life lived upon this earth. Those stones which mark the graves of soldiers who died in battle are a memorial of the price paid for our freedom. Unfortunately, it has become our freedom to forget what our freedom has cost.

(Illustration of soldiers grave unmarked by a flag)

Recently I was in a cemetery and noted the flags flying beside the grave of those who served in our armed forces. I happened to walk past an old, weathered tombstone of a lonely grave

by itself. There was no evidence that this man had any family or relatives buried near or around him. The tombstone looked like one of those old white marble types. The lettering was almost obliterated, and actually there were only two lines which had been carved on it. The top line listed the man's name as Private ~~so~~ and so. And the next line simply gave the date of his death, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ sometime in 1908. Here was a veteran perhaps of the Civil War, or the Spanish American War, or who just served in the army of his country and died while in the service. But he was forgotten. No flag, no reminder that he served his country.

God didn't want His people to forget the freedom which was theirs after they came into the ~~xxx~~ Promised Land. They set up this memorial simply known as "These Stones." We are reminded of the cost of our freedom as we observe days such as Memorial Day. But we need to be reminded in our churches of the cost of the freedom we have through Jesus Christ. He gave Himself completely so that we can have that special relationship with God. This holiday, this weekend we need to thank God for the freedom we enjoy as a nation, but especially the freedom which is ours through Christ.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor June 3, 1990
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Acolytes: Jennifer Gannon and Tommy Vensel
+ + + + +
ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Chiming of the Hour
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Processional Hymn No. 147 "Spirit of God, Descend
upon My Heart"
*Ascription
*Call to Communion and Confession (Communion Folder)
*Prayer of Confession (Communion Folder)
*Assurance of Pardon
Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You
People - And with Thy Spirit
Pastor - Let us pray.
Morning Prayer
Giving of our Tithes and Offerings
Offertory
*Doxology - page 382
Communion Hymn No. 162 "Holy Ghost, With Light Divine"
*Invitation to Communion
*Seraphic Hymn (Communion Folder)
*Institution and Consecration of the Elements
Distribution of the Bread (when all are assembled at the
rail, everyone kneel or stand, and please take a piece
of bread)
Distribution of the Cup (everyone please take a cup)
*Prayer of Thanksgiving
Anthem: "The Green Cathedral"
Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18
Sermon: "That Other Promise"
*Invitational Hymn No. 313 "The King is Coming"
*Closing Chimes
*Benediction
*Postlude
+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. William Johnston in memory of Loved Ones.
Mrs. Lucille Tack will greet our members and friends at
the door this morning.
Those serving as Ushers today are Marty Henry, John Snow,
Jeff Snyder They will also be
directing you to the chancel rail for communion.
Nursery will be provided today Kelly Mangel & Anna Gonzalez.
Attendance last Sunday was 94 with 14 visitors.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Marty Henry.
Virginia Mangel and Jim Gannon will be visiting the
hospital this week.

> Hospitalized: Walter Hollefreund, Judy Bowser, Harold
Peters, Mrs. Lavere Nulph and Mildred Wiles in BMH.

OUT ***** SUNDAY TAKEN

Lay Reader is needed for Wednesday evening for the TV
taping. If you could do this it would be appreciated.

MONDAY - 7 P.M. Benevolence Committee meeting
7 P.M. Property Committee will meet, bids are in.

WEDNESDAY - Council meeting at 7 P.M.

THURSDAY - Elders will meet at 6:30 to prepare for the
Custodian interviews.

Sunday, June 10th at 7 P.M. we will hold our pre-registration
for VBS. Come to register and have a "sundae" on us.

Finance Committee will meet June 12th at 7 P.M.

> Please take a minute today and fill out the communion cards
that are in the pew racks so we have a record of your
attendance and communing with us.

The Office Staff will be attending a conference/workshop
in Lancaster on Monday, will return Tuesday. If you
have a need during this time, call Dick Mangel.

> We wish to extend our congratulations to any and all seniors
who will be graduating from high school or college.
We received no names, but we wish them the best.

> The new Daily Bread booklets for June, July, August are
in the Narthex.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond the God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - MAY 11, 1997

RELIDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

WAYNE STEAN MOTHER DIED
BRINN MARSH

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 1:6-11

SERMON: "THAT OTHER PROMISE"

(BASED ON SERMONS, ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 6/3, 6/10/90)

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

ANN - AUTO ACCIDENT - (DON COPE'S DAUGHTER)

STEAN FAMILY

HANNAH

MARTHA

TONY

UNIFORMS - JONAS/PEG

PAULINE - KATHAL

JEAN

BILL

MAY 23
BRINN LEANA

SCRIP: ACTS 1:6-11, MT. 24:32-42; SERM: "THAT OTHER PROMISE"

(1555 GEN MAC ARTHUR RETURN TO PHILIPPINES)

ON SPR DAY LIK THIS 2000^{vs} AGOJS STUJ HIL OUTSID JERU

HE SPK W/DISCIPS & HAD BIN W/THEM 40 days

VS 9=THIS ASCENSIN & LAS WK OBSERV ASCENSIN SUNDAY

VSS 10-11=GRK-"LIK MANNR" =IN THIS FASHIN, THE SAME WAY

HERE IS PROMIS SUMTH HAPN IN FUTUR EXAC SAME WAY

A PROMIS OF A FUTUR EVENT

THRUOUT HISTRY PEO OF ISRAEL G MADE PROMIS OF COMING MESSIAH

A DELIVERER

THIS THAT OTHR PROMIS & IS CALLD"SECOND COMING"

(ILUS OF STATISTICS OF PROPHS CONCERN JESUS)

GIV IDEA HOW IMPORT 2ND COMING IS IN SITE OF GOD

2STAG EVENT

1st STAGE=RAPTURE

WE LIV IN WAT CALLD - TH/CHURCH AGE

ACORD 2SCRIP THIS WIL END W/THE APEARING OF JS FOR HIS CHURCH

APOSTL PAUL WRIT OF THIS IN 1 THESS 4:13-18

1 THESS 4:13-18

I CANT READ WORD "RAPTURE" IN TH/BIBLE

BUT IT IMPLIED & SPOKEN OF AS HERE P'S LETTER

WORD "RAPTURE" MEANS - "TO CATCH AWAY"

TH/CATCH AWAY WIL TAK PLACE W/APPEAR OF JS IN CLOUDS
VSS 16-17=EXPLAIN

THEN FOLLO 7yrs TRIBULATIN

MOST HORIBL TIMES WORL HAS EVR SEEN

7yrs CULM IN W WAR WHER ALL NATINS OF WORL CONVERG ON ISRAEL

THER WILB FOT TH/BATTL OF ARMAGEDDON

JS WIL APEAR PHYSICLY/VISIBLY ON EARTH

THIS WAT LUKE WRIT ACTS 1:11=(READ THIS VERSE)

JS WIL DESTROY TH/WICKD ON EARTH,

BIND SATAN,

CAST ANTI-CHRIST & FALS PROPH IN LAKE OF FIRE,
AND WIL REIGN 1000 yrs, OR MILLENNIUM ON EARTH

ALL THIS "WHO" & "HOW" OF 2ndCOMING
MUS ASK "WHY?"

ANSR=BCUZ G MADE THIS PROMISE & HE KEEPS PROMISES.

IF HE DIZNT NK THEN MUS SAY G IS A LIAR

PAUL WRITES HIS LETTER TO TITUS=G CANNOT LIE

DID G LIE WEN SED A MESSIAH WUD CUM??

" " " PROMISD THIS PERSON WUD SUFFR REJ, B ARESTD,
TRIED & KILLD??

" " " SED THIS PERSON WUD CUM FR/GRV???

NO! IN ALL THOZ THINGS THER IS NOT ONE LIE

SO IF TOL TRUTH THOZ THINGS WHY WUD HE LIE BOUT THIS ONE??

WHY TH/SECOND COMING???

ITS G'S PLAN, HIS WORD & IT IS 2B 4TH/SPIRITUL BLES OF THOZ WHO
R HIS

BUT WE DONT HEAR MUCH BOUT THAT PROMIS OF HIS 2ND COMING IN
XPIAN CIRCLES

WHY???

I BLIEV CHURCH BIN LULLD INTO SENS FALS SECURITY AS PETER
PROMISD WUD HAPPN

IN HIS 2nd LETTR CHAP 3:3-4 - HE WRITE OF THIS

2/

2 PETER 3:3-4

3/

WA. BETTR WAY THAN 4SATAN INFILTRAT CHURCH W/UNBLIEF???

BLIEVRS ASK ="WHERE IS HE? HE ISNT GOING TO COME BAK"

THEN BLIEVRS DOUBT, & FR/DOUBT SPRINGS UNBLIEF, & BCUZ OF UN-
BLIEF WE R NOT PREPARD & WAITING. WATCHING FOR HIS RETURN

IN MT 24, CHAP WHER JS TALKS ABOUT END TIME EVENTS HE TELLS US,

"WATCH THEREFORE: FOR YE KNO NOT WAT HOUR UR LORD DOTH COME"

WE R TO WATCH & WAIT

(ILUS RETARDED CHILDREN & DIRTY WINDOWS)

R U LOOKING 4TH/COMING OF JS AGAIN???

HE CUD COME AT ANYTIME

JS HIMSELF TOLD US TO WATCH AND TO WAIT

(27)

OCT 20, 1944
 THIS IS TH/VOIC OF FREDUM, GEN MACARTHUR SPEAKING.
 PPOPL OF TH/PHILPINES: I HAV RETURNED. BY TH/GRAC OF ALMITY GOD, OUR
 (CES STAN AGIN ON PHILPINES SOIL - TH/HR OF UR REDEMPTIN IS HERE
 RALLY TO ME

Acts 1:9

1:10-11

Grk for In Lik Mannr = IN THIS FASHIN, TH/SAME

(Statistics about prophecies of Jesus)

PROPH OCUPY ONE FIFTH OF SCRIP & 2ND CUM OCUPY ONE THIRD THAT 1 - 5th
 OF 333 CONCERN XP ONLY 109 THEM WER FULFIL IN 1st CUM LV 22:4 YET 2B FUL
 IN HIS 2ND CUM

OF TH/46 OT PROPHS, LES THAN 10 THEM SPK OF EVENTS IN XP'S 1ST CUM,

WHIL 36 THEM SPK EVENTS CONECT W/2ND CUM

THER R TOTL 1,527 OT PASAGS REFER 2 TH/2ND CUM

THER R 7,959 VSS IN NT, 330 OF WH/REFR DIRECTLY 2 TH/2ND CUM & THAT

AMTS TO ONE OUT OF 25

NEX 2SUB OF FAITH, TH/SUBJ OF 2ND CUM IS MOS DOMINANT SUBJ IN NT

4EVR TIM TH/1ST CUM IS MENTIN IN BIBL, TH/2ND CUM IS MENTIN 8 TIMES

4EVR TIM TH/ATONNEN IS MENTIN ONCE, TH/2ND CUM IS MENTIN TWIC

TH/LORD REFRS 2 HIS RETURN 21 TIMES

MEN R EXHORTD 2B REDY 4 TH/RETURN OF JS XP OVR 50 TIMES

Raptur cums fr/ Latin wh/mean= 2CATCH AWAY

Titus 1:4-2

2 Peter 3:3-4

((as retarded children & dirty windows)

Mt 25, 10prep/10unprep virgins

WATCH THER 4,4YE KNO NEITHR TH/DAY, NOR TH/HR WHEREIN TH/SON OF MAN
 COMETH Mt 25:13

"That Other Promise"

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18

(plus MacArthur & return 2 Philippines)

Gen Mac forced evac Phils sevr1 yrs B4, but prior 2departur had
 prom - I SHAL RETERN

it on spring day much lik this one, sum 2M yrs ago Js stud on
 hilsid outsid Jeru talk 2discips

bin w/them 40 days sinc aros fr/tomb & now giv final instructs
 Lk tel us=Acts 1:9 -READ

Ves 10-11-READ

term=In Lik Mannr in Grk means=In this fashin, th/same

So here G prom made of sumth 2happn in futur in exaclly sam way
 it pertain 2prom of futur tim

Throuth histry of pec of Is G made prom of com Mesiah-A Delivrer
 now, this is that othr prom wh/calld 2nd Coming

(Ilus of statistics fr/Scrip bout propchs of Js)

this shud giv us ruf idea of import G plac on 2nd Coming of Lord

Js Xp

this is actuly 2stag event

1st part or stage is wat P writ bout in our Scrip

We R liv in wat kno as Ch Age acord G's timtabl of events

this age wil end in wat is kno as=Th/Raptur of Th/Church

Th/word=Raptur is fr/ Latin word means=2 Catch Away

this catch away of Ch wil tak plac w/appear of Js in clouds as
 P is tel here

then wil folo resur of bodys of th/ded Blievrs fr/ther graves
 & then th/liv Blievrs wilB caut up in clouds & go in2 hvn

w/Js

th/unBliev ded wil remain in graves, & th/unBlievrs wil remain
 on th/erth

folo this ther wilB 7yr periud calld=Th/Tribulatin

this wilB 7yrs of mos horibl times worl has evr seen

this 7yr periud wil culmnat in world war wher all th/natins

of th/worl wil converg on th/natin of Is - Th/Battl of Armged

in midst this battl, Js wil actuly, visibly, phys return 2erth

2destroy th/wickd on erth, 2bind Satn, 2cast th/Antixp & th
 Fals Proph in2 Lak of Fire

& then He wil setup Milen kingdm, or th/one-thous yr reign

All this is th/Who and th/How of th/2nd Coming of Js Xp

but mus ask questin=Why? Why is this necessary?

th/anser of cors is that G mad this prom & if G mad prom if He
 no keep it He is a liar

Did He ly when prom Mesiah wud cum? Wen prom this persn wudB

rejec? WudB aros, tryd, killd? Wen sed wud ris fr/Grav?

No, in all theather not one ly

so, if tol truth in thez proms, why wud ly bout this one?

usnt ly, nor can He ly
 writs of this in Titus 1:1-2
 so ques of why 2nd Coming? & th/ansr is=Bcuz G sez so
 Its His plan, His word, & we need 2kno & undrst it is 2B for tpe
 sp welB & blesing of thoz who R His
 But we dont hear much made of That Othr Prômis & it is almos
 always on th/bakburnr if it is evn considrd w/in th/Ch
 I Bliev th/Ch has bin lulld in2 a sens of fals securty by
 Satn
 Petr prom this wud hapn wen wrot in 2 Petr 3:3-4
 wat bettr way 4 Satn 2infiltrat th/Ch than 2hav Blievrs saying
 "Wher is He? He isn't going to come."
 & then we doubt, & fr/our doubts spring unBlief, & we R unprepd
 this wat Js was try 2say wen tel parbl of 10 wis/10 foolish
 virgins
 at end of parbl He say=Watch ther⁴, for ye kno neithr th/day
 nor th/hour wherin th/Son of Man cometh, Mt 25:13
 We R 2watch & wait
 (Ilus retarded children & dirty windows)
 R U lking 4 th/coming of Js again?
 He cud com at any tim
 Js Himself tol us 2watch & 2wait

"That Other Promise"

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18

(Illustration of MacArthur returning to Philippines)

On October 20, 1944, a voice was ~~xxxx~~ broadcast for all the people of a recently oppressed and over run nation, "This is the Voice of Freedom, General MacArthur speaking. People of the Philippines: I have returned. By the Grace of Almighty God, our forces ~~xxxx~~ stand again on Philippine soil....The hour of your redemption is here....Rally to me."

General MacArthur was forced to evacuate from the Philippines several years before. But prior to his departure he proclaimed, "I shall return."

It was on a spring day, much like this day some two-thousand years ago that Jesus stood on a hill outside of Jerusalem talking to His disciples. He had been with them 40 days since He had arisen from the tomb and now He was giving them final instructions. It was Luke who recorded these events for us, and he tells us in Acts 1:9, "And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight."

They continued to watch where He had been and "While they were looking up steadfastly toward ~~xx~~ heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, 'Ye men of Gaililee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.'" verses 10-11.

The term, "In like Manner," means in Greek, "in this fashion, the same." So it is here that we see a promise made of something to happen in the future in exactly the same way. It pertains to ~~xxxxxx~~ a promise of a future time. Throughout the history of the people of Israel God had made a promise of a coming Messiah, A deliverer. Now, this is "That Other Promise," which is called, "The Second Coming."

(Illustration of statistics from Scripture about prophecies of Jesus)

Prophecy occupies one-fifth of Scripture; and the Second Coming occupies one-third of that one-fifth.

Of the 333 prophecies concerning Christ, only 109 of them were fulfilled in His First Coming, leaving 224 yet to be fulfilled in His Second Coming.

Of the forty-six Old Testament prophets, less than ten of them speak of events in Christ's First Coming, while thirty-six of them speak of events connected with His Second Coming.

There are a total of 1,527 Old Testament passages referring to the Second Coming.

There are 7,959 verses in the New Testament, 330 of which refer directly to the Second Coming and that amounts to one ~~xx~~ out of twenty-five.

Next to the subject of faith, the subject of the Second Coming is the most dominant subject in the New Testament.

For every time the First Coming is mentioned in the Bible, the Second Coming is mentioned eight times.

For every time the atonement is mentioned once, the Second Coming is mentioned twice.

The Lord refers to His return twenty-one times.

Men are exhorted to be ready for the return of Jesus Christ over fifty times.

This should give us a rough idea of the importance God places upon the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is actually a two-stage event. The first part or stage, is what Paul is writing about in our Scripture. We are living in what is known as the Church Age according to God's timetable of events. This age will end in what is known as "The Rapture of the Church." The word "Rapture" comes from a Latin word which means to "Catch away." This catching away of the Church will take place with the appearance of Jesus in the clouds

as Paul is telling here. Then will follow the resurrection of the bodies of the dead, ~~sxxxxx~~ from their graves, and then the ~~sxixxsxwxsxaxsxi~~ believers who are still alive on the earth will be caught up in the clouds and go into heaven with Christ. The unbelieving dead will remain in their graves, and the unbelievers will remain on earth. Following this, there will be a 7 year period of what is called, "Tribulation." This will be 7 years of the most horrible times the world has ever seen. This seven year period will culminate in a world war where all of the nations of the world will converge on the land of Israel - the Battle of Armageddon. In ~~the~~ ^{THE} midst of this battle Jesus will actually, visibly and physically return to earth to destroy the wicked on earth, to bind ~~Satan~~ Satan, to cast the Antichrist and the False Prophet into the Lake of Fire, and to set up His millennial kingdom, or the one-thousand year reign.

All of this is the "Who" and "How" of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. But we must ask the question, "Why?" Why is this necessary? The answer of course is that God made "This Promise." And if God made this promise, if He doesn't keep it He is a liar. Did He lie when He promised a Messiah would come? Did He lie when He promised this person would suffer rejection would be arrested, tried, and killed? Did He lie when He said He would come from the grave? No, in all of those things there was not one lie. So if He told the truth about those prophecies, why would He lie about this one? God does not lie, nor can He lie. Paul writes of this in his letter to Titus 1:1-2 - Read this. So to the question of "Why the Second Coming?" The answer is simply because God says so. It's His plan, His Word and we need to know and understand it is to be for the ~~benefit~~ spiritual blessing of those who are His. But we don't hear much made of "That Other Promise" and it is almost always on ~~the~~ "back burner," if it is even considered at all within the church. I believe the church has been lulled into a sense of false security by Satan. Peter promised this would happen when he wrote in his 2nd letter in chapter 3, verses 3 & 4, (Read these verses). What better way for Satan to infiltrate the church than to have believers saying, "Where is He? He isn't going to come," and then we doubt, and from our doubts springs unbelief, and we are unprepared. This is what Jesus was trying to teach in the parable of the 10 wise and the 10 foolish virgins. At the end of that parable recorded in the 25th chapter of Matthew, Jesus said, "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh," verse 13.

We are to watch and wait.

(Illustration of retarded children and dirty windows)

A man who runs a home for a group of retarded children was talking to one of his friends. The friend asked about caring for these children and inquired how difficult it may be to be cleaning up after them constantly. The man said that his biggest cleanup task was washing the windows almost every day. The other man asked, "Why would the windows get so dirty every day?" He answered, "Because the kids go to the windows many times a day, and look to see if Jesus is coming, and they smear the windows with their hands."

Are you looking for the coming of Jesus again? He could come at any time. Jesus Himself told us to watch and to wait.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor June 10, 1990

Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist

Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music

Acolytes: Jennifer Gannon and Tom Vensel

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

Joys

Prayer Requests

*Opening Hymn No. 306 "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"

*Ascription

*Exhortation

*Confession (In Unison) We offer to thee, O Father, praise
for the gift of thy Spirit. We are made aware that your
love is given to us in many ways. When we are lonely,
when we are filled with doubt, when we show unbelief, it
is your Spirit that fills us with your truth. And when
we burn with hatred, or anger, or selfishness, or greed,
it is your Spirit which speaks to us with your love.
Forgive us, and may your Spirit live, guide, and direct
us in all ways. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Kyrie

*Assurance of Pardon

*Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God

People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Children's Moment

Hymn No. 486 "Open My Eyes That I May See"

Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You

People - And with Thy Spirit

Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

Hymn No. 497 "Like a River Glorious"

Scripture: Matthew 24: 32-42

Sermon: "That Other Promise: Watch"

*Invitational Hymn No. 495 "It Is Well with My Soul"

*Closing Chimes

*Benediction

*Postlude

***** *Congregation Standing *****

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Mr. & Mrs. Dick Dally in memory of Loved Ones.

Mr. & Mrs. Dick Mangel will greet our members and guests
at the door this morning.

Ushering today are Jeanne Snyder, Judy Shearer and Helen
Crawford.

Nursery will be provided today Bonnie Gannon.

Van Driver for next Sunday will be Bill Snyder.

Attendance last Sunday was 115 with 7 visitors.

Lloyd Link and Ray Isherwood will be visiting the
hospital this week.

*Hospitalized: Walter Hollefreund and Mary Sherman in BMH.
Mid Diefenderfer in Allegheny General
Hulda Lippold in Indiana hospital

*TONIGHT!!! - at 7 P.M. we will be holding our pre-
registration for Vacation Bible School. This is the
opportunity to register early and to have an enjoyable
"sundae" on us. VBS will be held June 18 - 22 from
6:30 to 9:00. Hope to see you there and to make this a
good year for VBS. We need you to make it a success!!!
TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M. Finance Committee meeting

*Additional Hospitalizations:

Harry Davis in Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh
Sally Cubbison in BMH

Slavic Gospel Association

Wheaton, IL. 60187

This is the address for the Russian Bible Collection that
that we took up last Sunday. Again today the baskets
will be at the doors if you would like to contribute.

*Work nite scheduled Wed June 13-6:30; need help Raindate???

JUNE 24 - PICNIC IN PARK & WORSHIP

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

(Ilus Cathedr Milan & 3 dors)
 Rt hand dor=ALL THAT PLEASES IS BUT 4 A MOMENT
 Lft dor=ALL THAT TRUBLS IS BUT 4 A MOEMIN
 Centr dor=NUTHING IS IMPORTANT, SAV THAT WH/IS ETRNL
 (Ilus Pres Lanc Bib Coleg & wat dif maks 100 yrs)

Js recod as say word 11 tims in Gospls
 GOREUO - GREG - GOR - YOO - O =Means-KEEP AWAK, B VIGILNT,
 WAK, B WATCHFL, & LITRLY WATCH

Vss 32-33 - Fig tree

Vs 34=Genratin

Vs 35=G's Word, & people

Vss 37-41=Js reitrat

Vs 42=WATCH is TH/KEY WORD OF THAT OTHER PROMIS

(Ilus fathr tel 3yr-old wen cum home)

FIRST=need Zhav selvs prep
 & need 2prep othrs as wel

HOW IS IT W/U?

IS UR HOU IN ORDR?

CUN U HONESLY SAY HIS CUM IS B ANTICIPAT W/OUT RESERVATINS?

We hav optuntz 2mak evrth certin

READ V- 42

"That Other Promise: Watch"

Scripture: Matthew 24:32-42

(Ilus Cathedral in Milan & three dorways)

That sumwat sum up think of much of worl; peo R eithr concernd
 bout hav gud tim & B entraind, that many think of nuth els

Or els they R part of crowd only concernd bout ther partic probs

Exclusin of nevr giv thot 2othrs

Jus how many R concern w/thin s that R etrnl?

(Ilus Pres Lanc Bibl Coleg & quote=Wat dif wil mak in Ch 100yrs?)

2get mad caus rm no paint gr & draps yelo=Wat dif 100 yrs??

2neglec giv mony 20 peo brot 2 Xp=Wat dif 100 yrs mak??

U C, it is matt of priortys - Wat is, or isnt import in th/Ch?

I Bliev can also C this in matt wat ch/membrs Bliev & Ch/teach

ther R ch's wher nuth but proph/futur events taut & membrs go

wherevr this is subj & only thing they kno

then ther Ch's wil not pr/teach anyth bout Raptur/2nd Cum

One extrem is as bad as othr 4we canB caut up w/hed in clouds &

neglec minstry 2 othrs, or we ignor Word of God

ther cert balanc we need hav & impertiv we awar Bib spks of

return of Js Xp

Ther word Js usd wh/record 11 tims in Gospls

In Grk word is=GREGGOREUO=GREG-GOR-YOO-O & it means=keep awak,

B vigilnt, wak, B watchfl & litrlly WATCH

in try detrmn wat we shud WATCH, we need lk brifly at sum events

wh/Js Himself sed wud tak plac wh/wud indicat nearnes nex apear

this wk we jumpd ahed litl in ord "C sum thing mos Bib schlr

Bliev hav hapn

& then nex wk wil lk sum thing R hapn & wil continu 2hapn lead

up 2that apearnc of Js Xp 4 His Ch

Vss 32-33=READ

almos all Bib schlr concd wen fig tree mentin in Scrip it has

2a w/natin of Is.

had tol discips numbr thing 2cum & He remin them they cud

interp seasn of yr by fig tree

it duznt tak genius 2kno aftr wint'r we C buds Bgin gro & spr

is here & no long til summr folo spr & so on

So Js tel discips sinc cud deduc this, they wer 2lk 4 signs

pt 2 His return

Is. was no lng'r natin as G intend it 2B-th/Jews wer sacr 2far

ends of erth & thoz liv in Palstin wer conqurd peo

they wer held captiv in ther land by hatd Rom in tim of Js

sinc anyth sed bout restratin of Is, as natin cudB contrud by

Romns as treasn, Js had spk hiddn terms

but also sinc Js didnt kno wen futur even wud tak plac, had 2

tel in such way so if it ocur whil Jews undr bondag, wud kno

wat was tak plac

or if tuk plac in distant yrs, cudB seen as fulfil G's proph

Th, natin of Is.=fig tree, cudnt put 4th lvs until once agin natin

in 1948 hatn of Is. was born & w/in short period of tim IS.

was recogniz by mos of world - all this agin grt odds

w/2 short clashs w/much superior numbrs of Arabs,Is, gaind 2/
 Jeru & th/land wh/givn 2them by G
 thus Bcam worl powr wen by rites shud hav bin obliterated by Arabs
 Vs 34=librl schlr's takn this 2mean th/peo who wer liv at tim,
 namly discip's, & sinc they passd away that proph no fulfil ther
 lifetimz thus wil not B fulfilled
 br' tru interp is word=GENRATIN can refr not only 2tim periud,
 b 2race or grp of peo
 Js was say,Jews,ther race wudnt pas away until all this fulfil
 Jewish histry wil not end until Batl Armagedon wh/2tak plac
 at end periud of Trib
 vs 35=2thing las 4evr-G's Word,& people
 Vss 37-41=Js reitrat wat sed B4 & tel wat conditins wilB wen all
 this taks plac
 Noah was bld ark 4-120 yrs & dur that tim ther no slak of sin
 & wordlines
 our times grtly parrel thoz days
 We R pleasur seek worl w/litl no regar 4things of G
 at tim of flud all peo of worl wer destrdyd,but at 2nd Cum of L
 sum wilB savd & othrs lost
 Bib intrps tel us ref Js maks 2peo 2gethr-lsavr,othr los has 2do
 w/judgmen folo Battl Armgedon
 this tru,bnt I also Bliev it ref 2wat wil tak plac at Rap wen Js
 appear 4His Ch
 only thoz who R Blievrs wilB takn & thoz who unBlievrs left
 that why impertiv we detrm our destny B4 we depart this lif
 eithr thru deth or th/Raptur
 th/warn is givn by Js at end this portin Scrip=READ Vs 42
 B prprd 4that day 2hapn at any tim=WATCH IS TH/KEY WORD4THAT OTHER
 PROMISE
 (Ilus fathr tel 3yr-old wen wud cum home)
 & this how shudB 4us we shudB lk w/anticpatin 2 th/Coming of The
 Lo 4us & His Ch
 but it not 2B tim of idlnes
 as we realiz th/shortnes of th/tim by th/signs we C,our watch-
 fulnes shudB a tim of reap 4th/kingdm so that othrs may hav
 wat is ours thru Xp
 FIRST=we need 2hav ourselvs prepd,& then we need 2prep othrs as
 well
 How is it w/U?
 Is Ur hous in odr?
 Can U honesly say that His cuming is B anticpatd w/out reserv??
 We hav oprtuntty 2day 2mak evrth certin
 th/warning needs 2ring in our ears=WATCH THERFORE:FOR YE KNOW
 NOT WAT HOUR UR LORD DOTH COME.

"That Other Promise: Watch"

Scripture: Matthew 24:32-42

(Illustration of Milan Cathedral and three doors)

At the Cathedral in Milan there are three inscriptions over the respective doorways leading into the cathedral. Over the right-hand door is the inscription: "All that pleases is but for a moment." Over the left-hand door is the inscription; "All that troubles is but for a moment." But over the center door there is the simple sentence: "Nothing is important save that which is eternal."

That somewhat sums up the thinking of ~~xxx~~ much of the world. People are either concerned about having a good time and being entertained that many of them think of nothing else. Or else they are a part of the crowd that is only concerned about their particular problems to the exclusion of never giving a thought to others. And just how many are concerned with the things that are eternal. The President of Lancaster Bible College said just this past week something which makes a lot of sense. He was talking about being involved in church work and how we get caught up in the details of it all to the point of getting bent out of shape if our pet project is not carried out. The solution he said is to ask the question, "What difference will it make in the church a hundred years from now?" And you see the truth of that if you consider what some church people think is earthshattering. To get mad because a room is not painted green as we think it should be, or have yellow drapes. What difference will that make in a hundred years? But if we refuse to spend money to bring more people to the Lord, what difference would that make in a hundred years? You see, it is a matter of priorities. What is, or isn't important in the church?

I believe we can also see this in the matter of what church members and churches teach. There are churches where nothing but prophecy and future events are being taught. And the members of some of those churches are seeking to always go and hear yet another preacher giving his message on things to come. Then there are churches that will not under any circumstances look at the things yet to come such as the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. One extreme is as bad as the other, and there is always the danger of going overboard when considering these things. There is a certain balance we must seek to maintain, but it is imperative that we are aware that the Bible speaks of the return of Jesus Christ. There is a word which Jesus used that is recorded eleven different times in the Gospels. The word in Greek is "GREGOREUO" (GREG - GOR - YOO - O), and it means, "to keep awake, be vigilant, wake, be watchful," Literally it means, "WATCH."

In trying to determine what we should "Watch," we need to look briefly at some of the events which Jesus Himself said would take place which would indicate the nearness of His next appearance. This week we have jumped ahead a little in order to see some things that most Biblical scholars believe have happened. And then next week we will look at things that are happening and will continue to happen leading up to that Appearance of Jesus Christ for His Church.

In the 32nd verse Jesus was teaching His disciples by telling them, "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; when his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors," verses 32 & 33.

Almost all Biblical scholars concede that when a fig tree is mentioned in Scripture it has

to do with the nation of Israel. Jesus had told His disciples a number of things to come and He reminds them that they could interpret the season of the year by looking at a fig tree. It doesn't take a genius to know that after winter, when we see the buds beginning to grow on the trees that Spring is here and it won't be long until summer follows Spring and so on. So Jesus reminded the disciples that since they could deduce this, they were to look for signs that would point them to His return. Israel was no longer a nation as God intended it to be. The Jews were scattered to the far ends of the earth and those living in Palestine were a conquered people. They were held captive in their land by the hated Romans in the time of Jesus. Since anything said about the restoration of the nation of Israel could be construed by the Romans as treason, Jesus had to speak in hidden terms. But also, since Jesus said He didn't know when this future event would take place He had to tell it in such ~~xx~~ a way so if it occurred while the Jews were still under bondage they would know what was taking place, or if it took place in distant years, it could still be seen as God's fulfilled prophecy. The nation of Israel, (the fig tree), could not put forth leaves until it was once again a tree, (or a nation). It was in 1948 against great odds that the nation of Israel was born. Within a short period of time it became recognized as Israel by most of the world. With two short clashes with the Arabs Israel gained Jerusalem and the land which was given ~~them~~ to them by Almighty God. They thus became a world power when by all rights, the Arab world should have obliterated them.

Jesus told His disciples further, "Verily I say unto you, 'This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.'" verse 34.

Liberal scholars have taken this to mean the people who were living at the time, namely the disciples, and since they passed away and that prophecy wasn't fulfilled in their lifetimes, it will not be fulfilled. But the true interpretation is that the word "generation² can refer not only to a time period, but to a race or group of people. Jesus was saying that the Jews, their race would not pass away until all of this was fulfilled. Jewish history will not end until the Battle of Armageddon which is to take place at the end of the period of Tribulation.

Then Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away," vs 35. Two things will remain for ever. God's Word, and people. And then Jesus reiterates what He has said before and He tells what the conditions will be when all this takes place, (read verses 37-41). Noah was building the ark for 120 years. During that time there was no slackening of the people from their sin and worldliness. Our times greatly parallel those days. We are a pleasure seeking world with little or no regard for the things of God. At the time of the flood all of the people were destroyed, but at the Second Coming of the Lord some will be saved and others will be lost. Bible interpreters tell us that the references Jesus is ~~xx~~ making here of two people together, one saved, the other lost has to do with the judgement following the Battle of Armageddon. That is true, but I also believe it is a reference to what will take place at the Rapture when Jesus appears for His Church. Only those who are believers will be taken and those who are unbelievers will be left. That is why it is impera-

tive that we determine our destiny before we depart this life either through death or the Rapture. The warning is given by Jesus at the end of this portion of Scripture, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come," verse 42.

Be prepared for that day to happen at any time. "Watch," is the key word for "That Other Promise."

(Illustration of father telling young son when he would return)

A father had to go away on business on a long trip. Just before he left his little 3 year-old son asked him, "Daddy, when will you come home?"

This was in the Spring and the father knew that he wouldn't be home until Spetember, but how do you tell that to a three-year-old? So sitting down beside him he said, "When you see the leaves on the trees turning red and brown and starting to fall to the ground, then you will know that Daddy is coming back soon. The next day he hugged and kissed his little boy and left. The green leaves sprouted from all the trees; Spring turned into Summer and each day his mother took ~~for~~ him for a walk. He talked to her about his Daddy and told how he would be back when the leaves turned colors and started to fall. July and August passed and September came, but the leaves stayed green. Then in the middle of the month they slowly started to change, but the little boy didn't notice.

Then one night there was a big wind storm and the next morning the ground was covered with leaves. When the little boy went outside he saw the colored leaves all over the lawn and the sidewalks. He ran to the little piles and started to kick them and shout, "Hurray, Hurray, Daddy's coming home."

And this is what it should be for us. We should be looking with anticipation to the Coming of the Lord for us and for His Church. But it is not to be a time of idleness. As we realize the shortness of the time by the signs we see, our watchfulness should be a time of reaping for the kingdom so that others may have what is ours through Christ. First, we need to have ourselves prepared, and then we need to prepare others as well.

How is it with you? Is your house in order? Can you honestly say that His coming is being anticipated without reservations? We have the opportunity today to make everything certain. The warning needs to ring in our ears, "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania

Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor June 17, 1990

Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist

Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music

Mr. Roland Thompson, Saxophonist

Acolytes: Wesley Miller and Jimmy Shearer

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Congregational Greeting

Joys

Prayer Requests

*Opening Hymn No. 123 "When We All Get to Heaven"

*Ascription

*Call to Worship:

Pastor - Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth
rejoice

People - Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise.

Pastor - Seek ye the Lord while He may be found,
Call upon Him while He is near.

Invocation: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, by whose
will and blessings we have been permitted to worship in
this house; we gratefully give you thanks for the years
this congregation has remained at this site. For worship,
preaching, teaching, and the ministry of comfort in the
name of Jesus Christ, for which this church and people
have existed, we praise You. May our worship this day
reflect our thanksgiving, and all future worship be worthy
of Your Most Holy Name. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Praise: Leader - Blessed be the Lord God

People - And blessed be His glorious name forever.

*Gloria Patri - page 142

Children's Moment

Call to Prayer: Pastor - The Lord be with You

People - And with Thy Spirit

Pastor - Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology - page 382

Rededication of the Church Building

Hymn No. "It Will Be Worth It All"

Scripture: Matthew 24: 3-28

Sermon: "That Other Promise: Take Heed"

*Invitational Hymn No. 128 "Face to Face"

*Benediction

*Closing Chimes

*Postlude

***** *Congregation Standing *****

The beautiful flowers on the altar have been placed by
Ruth Davies in memory of Loved Ones.

Mrs. Emogene Massey will greet our members and guests at
the door this morning.

Ushering today are Kris Pedersen, Mike Kay, Anna Gonzalez,
and Lori Weisenstein.

Nursery will be provided today by Mrs. Shirley Link.

Attendance last Sunday was 106 with 9 visitors.

Rick Vinroe and Art Snyder will be visiting the hospital
this week.

> Hospitalized: Mrs. Mary Sherman and Walter Hollefreund
in BMH. Mid Diefenderfer in Alleg. General
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Dick Mangel.

> VBS begins on Monday at 6:30 to 9 P.M. All teachers are to
be there at 6:00 P.M. and ready. Openings will be held
in the Sanctuary. Please come, one and all. Classes for
all ages: yes, even the Adults!!!

> JULY 15th - a very important congregational meeting will be
held immediately following the service in Rehoboth Hall.

We need all of you there, so please be in attendance.

> JUNE 24th - PICNIC & WORSHIP IN THE PARK will be held at
11:00 A.M. Come with a picnic basket filled with food
and a table service. Dress casually and be prepared to
participate in the fun activities of the day. Bring a
ball glove and maybe we will play softball or volleyball.
Lay Life and Work Committee will be hosting this day.
Meat, dessert and beverages are provided.

At the close of the service the invitation is extended to
each worshipper to respond to God's leading for your
life. This invitation gives the opportunity to accept
Christ, to pray, to meditate, or to seek counseling.
The altar is open to everyone. The Pastor will assist
you if you desire.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - MAY 17, 1997

PRELUDE
GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS
FAMILY DAY DINNER - JUNE 8, AFTER CHURCH
VBS JUNE 16-21, ADULT CLASS - 6:30 - 8:30

REV. VERNON BORCHERT NEXT SUNDAY
FLOWERS - SARAH TOST FUNERAL
JUNE 7, 6:30 - FAMILY DINNER

HYMN
PRAYER/OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PASTORAL PRAYER
HYMN
SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 24:3-28
ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 6/17/90
*HYMN
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE

TOST FAMILY
PAULINE
MARINA
TONY
JANET
BILL

SCRIP: MT 24:3-28; SERM: "THAT OTHER PROMISE? TAKE HEED"
(ILUS CATHEDRAL IN MILAN, ITALY & THREE DOORS)
THINGS OF ETERNAL VALU WAS WAT DICIPS WER THINK OF THIS SCRIP
EVENT TUK PLACE ON TUES OR WEDS OF HOLY WEEK AD 30
JS SIT W/DISCIPS ON MT OLIVES & THEY QUESTIN
VS 3=WHEN WIL THEZ HAPN WEN U WIL CUM BAK??
VS 4=FOUND LIK TV COMERCIL - GOT HEDACHE & TAK 2HEED,CAL DR MORN
DECEIV U=JS AWAR DEPETIN WUD CUM FR/MANY DIF DIRECTINS
(ILUS BOYS IN BIOLOGY CLASS, MAK BUG & PROF CAL "HUMBUG")
DECEPTIN LIK THIS WAS NOT WAT JS WAS TALK BOUT - THIS PRANK
VS 5=THIS WAT JS GET AT - FALS CLAIMS/FALS XP'IS
EXAMPL=CH IN FALS SENSSECURTY - JS NO CUM,WONT CUM,ETC
THIS SATAN
PETER 1ST LETTER 5:8 - VIIGILNT SAME AS "WATCH,HEED"
NEX VSS BIB SCHOLARS DIVIDE ON SUM THINK DURING TRIB,OTHS
PRE-TRIB & THIS WAT MOS BLIEV
VS 5=NY TIMES FUL PAGE AD 1980
GORBYCHEV AS SAVIOR OF TH/WORLD & HE WAS CAL THAT BY SOME
VSS 6-7=END NOT YET, THEZ THING MUS TAK PLACE
FAMINE=PREDIC OF SCIENTISTS
PESTILENC=AIDS,RETURN PLAGUES,TB,POLIO,ETC.
ERTHQUAKS=IRAN LAS WK,CHINA,PLACES NEVR BIN B4
VS 8=ONLY TH/START
VSS 9-11=FAITH OF PEO TRIED - PERSECUTIN OF XPIANS NOW TAK PLACE
VS 12=BCDRLINE XPIANS TURN FR/CHRIST & GOD
VS 13=CANNOT B OVRCCM BY EVIL RND US & IN WORL
JUDICIL SYSTEM RUN AMOK,
WE R TO STAN FAST
VS 14=BIBL TRANSLATINS
VSS 21-22=THIS IS SUMATIN
EXPLAIN G STEP IN & SHORTN TIME TO SAV TH/ELECT
WA HUDB OUR STANC???
TAK HEED - IN GR=BLEPO --- I SEE
(ILUS DR. STOWELL, LIF THRET, & DAUGHTR'S REMARK TO HIM)
PAUL HANDLES THIS THOT IN ROMANS 14:7-9 - READ VERSES

AS WE LONG 2BLONG TO TH/LORD IT NO MATTR WHETHR JS APEAR
 2DAY, 2MORRO, OR 2THOUSAN YRS FR/NOW
IF WE R HIS, WER HIS IN LIF & IN DETH
 DR. STOWELL'S DOTTIR HAD RITE IDEA
 WEN WE PART FR/EACH OTHR WE NEED TO SAY,
"I'LL SEE YOU IN HVN" INSTED SO LONG, OR GUDBYE
 CAN I SAY THAT THIS MORN & TRULY MEAN IT???
 DO U KNO WEN CLOS UR EYES THIS LIF U WIL AWAKN IN HVN????
 WE CAN MAK THIS A REALTY IF HAVNT DUN SO
 CUM TO TH/SAV TODAY & CAST UR LIF UPON HIM
THEN KNO FOR CERTINTY NO ONE, NOR NUTHIN CAN SEPRAT U FROM
ALMITY GOD
U R HIS NOW & FOREVER
 BUT IN TH/MEANTIME WE MUS "TAKE HEED"

(Ilus self-importanc of fathers)
 ANY FATHER WHO THINS HE'S ALL IMPORTNT SHUD REMIN HIMSELF THAT
 HIS COUNTRY HONORS FATHER'S ONLY ONE DAY A YR, WHIL PICKLES GET
 A WHOL WK = CAL. PACIF-RRD. MEMENT D16.517 6/77
 Vs 4=snds lik TV comercil -GOT HEDACHE? TAK 2HEED & CAL DR MORN
 Vs 4=completly
 (I) boys biol clas & Humbug)
 C/P deceptin & satn's wiles
 1 Petr 5:8 - READ
 Virilnt=eam as Watch Tak Heed
 C/P Bib scholrs & trib-pre-trib bout this Scrip
 vs 5=NY Times ad in 80's
 Gorby
 vss 6-7=End not yet
 wars;erthquaks-Butler;famin as end of world
 vs 8=This Bgin of sorrows
 vss 9-11=faith of pec tryd
 vs 12=luv of many wax cold
 sin lik nevr B4-crim/punishmen
 vs 13=we R 2stan fas
 vs 14=Bibl trans
~~xxxxRkx22x~~Jews-Templ & Sab
 Sumatin=Vss 21-22
 wat shudB our stanc?
 Gr=HEED - BLEPO - I See
 (Ilus Dr. Jos Stowell, deth thret, dottir say=I'll C U In Hvn DAD)
~~xxxxM~~ Rom 14:7-9
 Can U say that this morn & mean it?
 do U kno wen U clos Ur eys this lif U wil awakn in hvn?
 U can mak realty if havnt dun so
 Cu Sav 2day & cast Ur lif upon Him
 then kno 4certnty nuth can seprat U fr/G
 U R His now & 4evr - TAK HEED

"That Other Promise: Take Heed"

Scripture: Matthew 24:3-28

(Ilus of importanc of fathr's) - P's Day lnce yr-pickls whol wk
As Js sit Mt Oliv discipz want kno wat wudB sign return & end
world

Mt writ - vs 4A

almsoun lik comercul duznt it? - Got hedache? Tak 2Heed
slets & cal Ur doctr in th/morn

that of cors wasnt wat Js was say & shud add res of vs=vs 4
this import,Bcuz Js awar as tim went on deceptin wud tak plac &
cum fr/many dif directins

(Ilus biol clas & boys "mak bug" & prof cal it =Humbug)

Ther R thez kinds decep seek pul prank/kok,but Js no talk bout
this kind decep

He talk bout peo wud cum long & lk events worl set dat/tim of
Js apcar in2 worl agin

& He also talk bout thoz who wud wait 4 His cum & wen no hapn,
lul peo in2 fals sens securty

this is sumatin of wher we R in worl 2day

Ther R thoz who C events of worl & form grps 2folo them & set
dates & times 4 His cum return

then ther thoz who say=2M yrs pas & He no cum yet,so dont think
He wil;we wil all liv amt yrs,dy,& aftr ded peo wil stil B talk

bout His return 4 His Ch

in both instance th/arch-deceivr is at work

Js knu this bettr than mos Bcuz He was temptd of him at Bgin min
it was one discip Js herd Him talk-Tak Heed who wrot 2 1st cen

Ch- 1 Peter 5:8 - READ

Notic-Petr say=B sobr,B vigilant & "vig" has sam mean of Watch,
& Heed in Js conversatin

Now Bib scholrs divid on mean of vss Scrip this morn

thoz say aply Trib

liev as othrs thez aply 2 pre-trib _ wat Js say wilB intens-
fy during th/Trib

vs 5=Js tel of cum of fals Xp'ts - (Ex=Ad NY Times in 80's Mesiah)

Ther othrs who made claim & wil do so - Gorbachev & Sav of worl
vss 6-7=Notic.He say-End is not yet

He say thez events wil lead up 2end

evn tho majr powrs R at peac-smal wars all ovr glob

Erthquaks=many places wh/nevr bin B4 - evn in Butlr las yr

famines=show one exper sed worl wud end insted nuclear

Js sed wud get progresivly wors=Lk tornados,droughts,flash fluds,

& recogniz truth of this

Js sed=Vs 8-Bgin of sorrows

Vss 9-11conditins wilB such that faith of peo wilB sevrly tried

& so He sez=Vs 12

sin is abound as nevr B4

punishmen 4 thoz convic of heinus crimes is sorly laking

so peo questin "how cud get an wors?"

Ther4 many say="If U cant beat em,join-em & turn fr/rite liv 2/
but Js say=Vs 13

nothr sign His cum is=Vs 14

Gospl no preach 2all worl,but ea yr get closr

Bibl transltrs R produc new trans evry yr

Js then go in2 details bout things pertain 2 th/Jews Templ & Saba

H' sumatin is=Vss 21-22

say as Blievrs liv thru thez end-tim days & things go fr/bad

2wors,all mank wud los out on salv,but G wont permit that Bcuz

of thoz who R His

He wil step in2 histry & tak Ch out of presen worl

As we C sin,violenc,bludshed escalat we wondr wher all wil end
wat shudB our stanc?

Js sed=Tak Heed

word Heed is intrest 2me Bcuz one of 1st Gr words lernd in Sem

in Gr it is BLEPO & we had fun w/word

sumone tel us sumth in expl & we ansr=I BLEPO - I see!

Js is say lk at evens tak plac & C thoz evens 4wat they R

but duz this mean we divorc selvs fr/liv this lif & say=Ch wel,

it all go 2end soon,so why not liv it up=eat,drink,B merry

we mus liv in this worl & liv thru watevr cum along

bUt we musB bout our livs until G cals us hom in watevr way

He wil

(Ilus Dr. Jos Stowell,lif thret & dottr gudby=C U In HVN)

I lik how P handl that thot=READ Rom 14:7-9

as long as we Blong 2 th/L it mattrs not whthr Js apcars 2day,

2morro,or nothr 2M yrs fr/nw

If we R His, we R His in lif & in deth

Dr. Stowell's dottr had rt idea,

wen we seprat fr/ea othr,we need 2say=I'll C U In Hvn,insted of
so long or gudby

Can U say this,this morn & truly mean it?

U kno wen U clos Ur eyes in this lif U wil awakn in hvn?

We can mak this a realty if we havnt yet dun so

Sum 2 th/Sav 2day & cast Ur lif upon Him

then kno 4 a certnty that nuth can sprat U fr/Almity G

U R His now & 4evr, Tak Heed

"That Other Promise: Take Heed"

Scripture: Matthew 24:3-28

(Illustration of importance of father's)

Someone has said, "Any father who thinks he's all important should remind himself that his country honors fathers only one day a year, while pickles get a whole week."

As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, His disciples wanted to know what would the signs of His return would be and when the end of the world would take place. Matthew writes, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, 'Take heed,'" verse 4A.

That almost sounds like a TV commercial doesn't it? "Got a headache?, take two Heed tablets and call your doctor in the morning." That of course, wasn't what Jesus was saying, and we should add the rest of that verse because of its importance. He said, "Take heed that no man deceive you." He was aware that as time went on deception would come from many different directions.

(Illustration of boys in Biology class trying to deceive the professor)

In a biology class a group of boys took different bugs and from each of those bugs they took a part. Assembling these parts together they had what looked like a rare and unique bug. They then took this "bug" to the professor for him to identify. The professor looked at the bug for a long time and finally he said, "Boys, I think this is a humbug."

There are these kinds of deception which basically just seek to pull a prank or joke. But Jesus wasn't talking about this kind of deception. He was talking about people who would come along and follow everything happening in the world and then set a time or date on the appearance of Jesus into the world again. And He was also talking about those who would wait for His coming and when it didn't happen, to lull people into a sense of security. This is a summation of where we are in our world today. There are those who are seeing the events of the world and forming groups to follow them and setting dates on His return. Then there are those who are saying, "2000 years have gone by and He still hasn't returned and I don't think He will. All of us will just live a normal amount of years and then die and after we're dead people will still be talking about His coming for the Church." In both instances the arch-deceiver is at work. Jesus knew this better than anyone else because He had been tempted by Satan at the very beginning of His earthly ministry. It was one of Jesus' disciples hearing what Jesus was saying about "Taking Heed," who wrote to the first-century church, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour," 1 Peter 5:8.

Notice, Peter says, "Be sober, be vigilant." The word vigilant ~~is~~ has the same meaning as the words, "watch" and "Heed" had in Jesus' conversatin.

Now Biblical scholars are divided on these verses we are using this morning as to the actual time period involved. There are those who say ~~this~~ this Scripture pertains to the period of the Tribulation. Then there are those who say these events precede the Tribulation. I believe these events precede the Tribulation, but will be intensified during the Tribulation. Let's look at some of these verses to see what Jesus was saying. First, Jesus tells of the coming of false Christs, verse 5 - (read). Sometime back in the eighties a full page ad appeared in the New York Times stating that the Messiah had arrived and was living in New York city. There have been others who have laid claim to being the promised one of God. There

are others who have not laid claim to Messiahship but have been acclaimed by other people as the Messiah. One of those on the scene today is the Head Red Gorbachev. People have actually called him "the Savior of the World."

Then Jesus said, verses 6 and 7, (read). Notice, at the end of verse 6 He says, "but the end is not yet."

He is saying that these events will be leading up to the end. We can see that even though ~~xxx~~ the major powers are at peace, there are small wars taking place right now in various parts of the world. Jesus said there would be "famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places." Earthquakes in recent days have been recorded in places where there were never earthquakes before. Remember last year there was a small one right here in Butler? A so called "world expert" about life on this planet came out just recently and said that the thing which would end the human race was not nuclear bombs, but famine since we cannot feed all of the population of the world right now. He said it would get progressively worse. Jesus said, "All these are the beginning of sorrows," verse 8.

Then He says, (read verses 9-11. But the conditions will be such that the faith of people will be severely tried because He says, "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold," verse 12.

Sin is abounding today as never before. Punishment for those convicted even of heinous crimes is sorely lacking and so much so that people are questioning how things could possibly get much worse. And many of those are shrugging and saying, "What's the use, if you can't beat em, join em?" But we are to stand firm in the faith for our Lord said, "But he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved," verse 13.

Another sign of the coming end is, (read verse 14). The Gospel has not yet been preached to all the world, but it is getting closer every year. Bible translators are producing new translations every year.

Then Jesus goes into some other details of the end times which partially pertain to the Jews about the Temple and the Sabbath. His summation is, (read verses 21 & 22). Jesus is saying that as believers live through these end time days and things keep going from bad to worse, all mankind would ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ lose out on salvation, but God won't permit that because of ~~xx~~ those who are His. He will step into history at that point and His Church will be taken out of this present world.

As we see things escalating in sin, and violence, and bloodshed we wonder where it all will end. As believers we know that God will intervene into history and at the appointed time God will take His Church and His people out of the world scene. What should be our stance? Jesus said, "Take Heed." That word "Heed" is interesting to me since it was one of the first Greek words I had to learn in seminary. In Greek the word is "BLEPO". We had a lot of fun with the word. Someone would explain something to us and we would answer, "Oh, I Blepo," meaning "I see." Jesus is saying to look at events taking place, See those events for what they are. But does this mean we divorce ourselves from the living of this life and say, "Oh well, it's all going to end soon. So why not live it up and eat, drink, and be merry." We must live in this world and live through whatever ~~xxxxx~~ comes along, but we must be about our lives until God calls us home in whatever way He will.

(Illustration of Dr. Joseph Stowell, president of Moody Bible Institute)

Dr. Joseph Stowell is the president of Moody Bible Institute. He tells of the time shortly after he moved from Michigan to Chicago to take over the presidency when he received a threat on his life. He was ordered to pay a million dollars of the Moody Institutes money to the homeless or he would be killed. He turned the matter over to the Chicago police and they agreed the threat was legitimate. So until the day of the deadline he had police watching him day and night. He said he never knew when he got into his car if perhaps when he turned on the key it would blow up. The night before the deadline he thought all kinds of things since that may have been his last night on earth. The next day he got up, got ready to go to the office and kept thinking this might be the last time he would see his wife, or his children, without telling them of his concern. He walked out of the house with his daughter, said so long, and then watched her as she walked away, thinking it might be the last time he saw her, without saying that to her. But he said, she turned around, and with a wave of her hand and a big smile said, "I'll see you in heaven Dad."

I like how Paul handles that thought. In his letter to the Romans in the 14th chapter, verses 7 through 9, he writes, (Read these verses).

As long as we belong to the Lord it matters not whether Jesus appears today, or tomorrow, or another two-thousand years from now. If we are His, we are His in life and in death. Dr. Stowell's daughter had the right idea. When we separate from each other, we need to say, "I'll see you in heaven," instead of goodbye, or so long.

Can you say ^{THAT} this morning and truly mean it? Do you know that when you close your eyes in this life, you will awaken in heaven? We can make this a reality if we haven't yet done so. Come to the Savior today and cast your life upon Him. Then know for a certainty that no one, nor nothing can separate you from Almighty God. You are His now and forever. "Take heed."

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Butler, Pennsylvania
Rev. Ralph Link, Pastor June 24, 1990
Mr. Dale Rice, Minister of Music
Mr. Robert Weisenstein, Liturgist
+ + + + +
CHURCH IN THE PARK SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

Prelude
Announcements
Congregational Greeting
Joys
Prayer Requests
*Ascription
*Call to Worship:
Leader - How excellent is Thy loving-kindness,
O God!
People - Therefore the children of men put their
trust under the shadow of Thy wings.
All - For with Thee is the fountain of life;
in Thy light shall we see light.
*Invocation (In Unison) Eternal God, our Maker and our
Lord, Giver of all grace from whom every good prayer
comes, and who pours His Spirit on all who seek Him:
deliver us when we draw nigh to You, from coldness of
heart and wanderings of mind; that with steadfast
thoughts and pure affections we may worship You in
spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. #40
Opening Hymn No. 62 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine"
- Morning Prayer
Offering
Offertory
*Doxology #29
Hymn No. 477 "More About Jesus Would I Know"
Scripture: Exodus 34: 5-8
Sermon: "How Close?"
Prayer #11
*Closing Hymn No. 363 "To God be the Glory"
*Benediction
*Blessing for the Lunch
*Postlude

+ + + + + *Congregation Standing + + + + +

Ushering today are Dick Mangel, Dick Dally, Donley Martin
and Don Kingsley.

Attendance last Sunday was 85 with 6 visitors.
Van Driver for next Sunday will be Jim Gannon.
Bob Weisenstein and Daryl Merrison will be visiting the
hospital this week.

➤ Hospitalized: Mid Diefenderfer in Allegheny General
Walter Hollefreund in BMH.
Harry Davis in Mercy Hospital

* * * * *
For the next two weeks the Pastor will be on vacation. If
you have a need or an emergency, please call Ginny at
home or in the office.

UPCOMING DATES: Council meeting July 11th

We need to thank the director and staff of VBS for having
a most enjoyable and learning week. Thanks for all of
your efforts. We had approximately 35-40 children each
evening plus an adult class of 7.

JULY 15th - a very important meeting of the congregation
will be held immediately following the service. A
letter will be forth coming with more details. We need
all of you there to handle the issues at hand. Please
make every effort to attend.

CARDS FOR CRAIG SHENGOLD - IN BULLETIN

MAKIE

OPAL

ROSE

BILL FAMILY

LINKS

NALIE

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA. - 8/14/94

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

DURING MY ABSENCE THE NEXT THREE SUNDAYS, GEORGE CANNON
WILL BE FILLING IN FOR ME

*HYMN

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 34:1-8

SERMON: "HOW CLOSE?" - ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 6/24/90

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Evnn

SANDY

PIANE

VBS CHILDREN

GRACE

CANL

(Ilus littl boy & God)

WE HAD A GUD TIM IN CH 2DAY, BUT I WISH U HAD BIN THER

vs 5

vs 6-7-HE THAT IS WHO HE IS - THE GREAT I AM

vs 8

Fr. Brick W. Faber - wrot Faith of Our Fathers

HOW WUNDRFUL, HOW BUTIFUL TH/SITE OF THEE MUSB

THIN ENDLES WISDM, BNDES POWR & AWFUL PURITY.

OH HOW I FEAR THEE, LIVING GOD,

W/DEEPES, TENDREST FEARS, & WORSHIP THEE W/TREMBLING HOPE
& PENITENTIAL TEARS.

ALSO: ONLY 2 SIT & THINK OF GOD, OH, WAT JOY IT IS!

2THINK TH/THOT, 2breath th/NAME, EARTH HAS NO HIGHER BLIS!

FATHER OF JS, LUV'S REWARD, WAT RAPTUR WIL IT B,

PROSTRAT B4 THY THRON 2LY

& GAZE, & GAZ ON THEE.

IF UR CAR STARTS ONC EVRY 3TRYS, IS IT RELIABL?

IF UR PAPERBOY SKIPS DELIVRY EVRY MON & THURS, IS HE TRUSWORTHY?

IF U DONT GO 2 WORK ONC OR TWIC A MNTH, R U A LOYL EMPLOYE?

IF UR REFRIG STOPS WORK 4A DAY OR 2 EVRY NOW & THEN, DO U SAY,

CH, WEL IT WORKS MOS OF TH/TIM?

IF UR WATH HEATR PROVIDS U W/AN ICY SHWR EVRY NOW & THEN, IS IT

DEPENDBL?

IF U MIS A COUPL OF LOAN PAYMENS EVRY YR, DUZ TH BANK SAY, 10 OUT

OF 12 ISNT BAD?

IF U FAIL 2WORSH G ONE OR TWO SUNDYS A MNTH, WUD U EXPEC 2B CALLD

A FAITHEFUL XPIAN?

WE EXPEC FAITHFULNES & RELIABILTY EX FR/THINGS & OTHER PEO

DUZ NOT G EXPEC TH/SAM FR/US?

PROB IS THAT IN OUR RELIG ACTIVTYS WE C OURSELVS AS VOLUN-

EERS RATHR THAN AS DUTY BND.

FOR A VOLUNTEER, ALMOS ANYTH SEEMS ACPTBL.

FOR A BONDSERV WHO IS DUTY BND, FAITHFULNES IS EXPECTED.

(Ilus preachr Francois Fenelon & King Louis XIV of France)

in 17th centry Francois Fenelon was cort preachr-K Louis XIV

K ariv, no one ther but preachr

K Louis demant WAT DUZ THIS MEAN?

Fenelon reply -I HAD PUBLISH THAT U WUD NOT CUM 2 CH 2DAY,
IN ORDR THAT UR MAJ MITE C WHO SERVS G IN TRUTH & WHO FLATTERS
TH/KING.

How wors - detrm how serv

worsh no sub 4servic; nor is servic sub 4 wors

but tru wors is always expres in luvng servic

SCRIP: EX 34:1-8; SERM: "HOW CLOSE?"

(ILUS BOY IN CHURCH, BEDTIME PRAYR & WISH G HAD BIN THER)
UNLIK BOY, ISITES, & PARTIC MOSES KNU G IN THER MIDST
(BACKGROUND ON SCRIP VSS 1-3)

VS 4=MOSES OBEYS

VS 5=G APPEARS & PROCLAIMS HIS OWN NAME - NO DOUBT WHO HE IS

VS 6=NAME MEANS = HE THAT IS, WHO HE IS IN ENGLISH

THEN SPELLS OUT WAT HE DUZ 4MANK

VS 7=MOSES MADE 2KNO ALTHO ISITES, ALL PEOPL SINNRs, G 4GIVS

(EXPL END VS 7 SIN VISIT ON CHILDEN - THOZ WHO HATE G)

VS 8=NOTIC WAT MOSES DID - HE WORSHIPED

TH/NAME OF G SHUD INSPIR US 2WORSHIP HIM

MOSES AS CLOS 2 GOD AS CUD GET

MUS WE B THAT CLOS 2 WORSHIP??

WAT SHUD INSPIR US?? JUST HIS NAME

HOW DO WE EXPRES TRU WORSHIP??

(ILUS FREDERICK FABER - WROT FAITH OUR FATHERS)

HOW CLOSE R WE?? U EVR SIT & THINK OF THAT NAME??

HOW DO WE COMPAR OUR RELATSHIP W/GOD?

(ILUS OF FAITHFULNESS OF THINGS)

JUST WAT IS OUR FAITHFULNES 2GOD & TH/THINGS OF GOD??

(ILUS OF GRANDDAUGHTER & VBS SEVERAL YRS AGO)

HOW CLOSE ARE WE TO GOD???

(ILUS PREACHER FRANCOIS FENELON & KING LOUIS XIV OF RANCE)

OUR PRIMARY REASON FOR WORSHIP IS NOT:

WHO WILL BE THERE,

WHERE IT IS HELD

AND NEVER UNDER COMPULSION "I HAVE TO WORSHIP"

GOD'S WANTS OUR LOVE, OUR DEVOTION, OUR WORSHIP

OUR WORSHIP DETERMINES HOW WE SERV

WORSHIP IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR SERVICE.

NOW IS SERVICE A SUBSTITUTE FOR WORSHIP

BUT TRUE WORSHIP IS ALWAYS EXPRESSED IN LOVING SERVICE

"How Close?"

Scripture: Exodus 34:5-8

(Ilus littl boy & Blieving G wasn't in Church that day)

Now unlik that littl boy, Isites, & Mos in partic knu G tter midst

Mos went up Mt 2nd tim w/2nu stons peep 4 G engrav on them

Wen Mos ascend Mt rea =Vs 5

G 4ar 2him in cloud & spok 2 Mos & we read His presenc=Vss 6-7

1st G identfy self as+HE THAT IS WHO HE IS

He identfy self as TH/GRT I AM

aftr He duz this He spel wat daz 4mank

This stamen lt Mos kno evn tho he & Isites wer misrbl sinnrs, in

site of G, yet, G wil/duz 4giv & hav cov relatship w/Him

Wat reactin of Mos? - Vs 8

Mos so clos 2 G & he knu that 2B in that positin requir worsh

2 Him

at this pt, Mos no ask anyth of G

He in His presenc & that alen worthy of worsh

Mos bin thru all expers of talk 2 G, & get instruc 2lead Isites

But now G reveal self thru His Name

jus very name of G shud inspir us 2bow B4 Him

TH/LORD GOD IS HE THAT IS WHO HE IS

men try convy thots or wors/revrenc, but not 2many seem hit tru

idea of worsh

Fredrick Faber - wrot Faith our Fathrs & wrot othrs

(Ilus 2 parts of his writings)

How Clos R we 2 God?

do U evr jus sit & think of Him?

do U evr say that nam ovr & ovr, savor richnes of G Th/Father??

wat do we C as our relatship w/G?

Sumone wrot list quest cp individ Xpian 2othr areas of lif

(Ilus this list)

Wp' is our faithfulness??

(4ampls-granddottr, & girl enthus 4 VBS)

How excited R we bout Ch & worship?

Did we lk 4ward 2cum here this morn?

I kno sum who didnt simpl BcuZ seem Bliev cant wors G unles

insid bldg

but we R here, & I trus Ur enthus is such U wil kno this morn

U wer at wors evn tho it out of doors

How Clos R we 2 God? How Clos is God 2us?

depen on perspectiv bout wors

(Ilus preach Francois Fenelon & King Louis XIV of France)

our primary reasn 4 wors shud not B determ wher wors held; nor

shud it B BcuZ who ther; & shudnt B undr compulsin

we shud always wors BcuZ that desir our harts

& shud want wors whthr ch empty or ful - How Close?

Only as clos as we permit selvs 2draw near 2 God

how we wors detrms how we serv - wors no sub 4 servc, nor is

serv sub 4 wors - but tru wors is alway expres in luvng servc

"How Close?"

Scripture: Exodus 34:5-8

(Illustration of boy in church and "God not there")

After attending church with his father one Sunday morning, before getting into bed that evening a little boy knelt at his bedside and prayed, "Dear God, we had a good time at church today, but I wish You had been there."

Now unlike that little boy, the Israelites, definitely Moses in particular knew that God was in their midst. Moses was up on the Mount for the second time with two new stones prepared for God to engrave the Law on them. When Moses ascended the Mount we read, "And the Lord descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord." verse 5.

God appeared to Him in the cloud and spoke to Moses from that cloud and we read of His presence, "And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, 'The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in ~~mercy~~ goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children unto the third and fourth generation.'" verses 6-7.

First God identifies Himself as, "He that is who He is, which is what that phrase, "The Lord, The Lord God," literally means in English. God is therefore identifying Himself as The Great I Am. After God does this, He then spells out what He does for mankind. This statement lets Moses know that even though he and the people of Israel are miserable sinners in the sight of God, yet, God will and does forgive and has that covenant relationship with them.

What was the reaction of Moses? The 8th verse tells us, "And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped," verse 8.

Moses was so close to God and he knew that to be in that position required worship to Him. At this point in time, Moses didn't ask anything of God. He was in His presence and that alone was worthy of worship. Moses had been through all of the experiences of talking to God and getting instructions to lead the people of Israel. But now, God revealed Himself through His name. Just the very name of God should inspire us to bow before Him. The Lord God is He that is Who He is. Men have tried to convey thoughts of worship and reverence, but not too many seem to hit the true idea of worship. Frederick W. Faber is perhaps an exception to that rule. You may or may not know that it was he who wrote the words for "Faith of Our Fathers." But two of his writings, (not in most hymnals), speak of the worship of God. Listen to how he phrases this:

How wonderful, how beautiful
The sight of Thee must be,
Thine endless wisdom, boundless power
And awful purity.
O how I fear Thee, living God,
With deepest, tenderest fears,
And worship Thee with trembling hope
And penitential tears.

And he also wrote:

Only to sit and think of God,
Oh, what joy it is!
To think the thought, to breathe the Name,
Earth has no higher bliss!

Father of Jesus, love's Reward,
What rapture will it be,
Prostrate before Thy throne to lie
And gaze, and gaze on Thee.

How close are we to God? Do you ever sit and just think of ~~His Name~~ Him? Do you ever say that Name over and over, savoring the richness of God, Father? What do we see as our relationship to God? Someone wrote a list of questions comparing an individual Christian's life to other areas of life. He wrote:

If your car starts once every three tries, is it reliable?
If your paperboy skips delivery every Monday and Thursday, is he trustworthy?
If you don't go to work once or twice a month, are you a loyal employee?
If your refrigerator stops working for a day or two every now and then, do you say, "Oh well, it works most of the time"?
If your water heater provides an icy cold shower every now and then is it dependable?
If you miss a couple of loan payments every year, does the bank say, "Ten out of twelve isn't bad"?
If you fail to worship God one or two Sundays a month, would you expect to be called a faithful Christian?
We expect faithfulness and reliability from things and other people. Does not God expect the same from us? The problem is that in our religious activities we see ourselves as volunteers rather than as duty bound. For a volunteer, almost anything seems acceptable. For a bondservant who is duty bound, faithfulness is expected.

What is our faithfulness? This past week one of our granddaughters was at our house for the day and she kept asking, "Grandma, is it time to go to Vacation Bible School?" She was looking forward to going each night. And this was Thursday. I was talking to one little girl one night after the classes were over for that night and she was bubbling with excitement at how much she was enjoying everything and was looking forward to coming the next night. How excited are we about Church and worship? Did we look forward to coming here this morning? I know some who didn't simply because they seem to believe you can't worship God unless it is inside of the buildings we call "churches." But we are here, and I trust your enthusiasm is such that you will know that this morning you were at worship even though it was out of doors.

How Close are we to God? How Close is God to us? It depends on our perspective about worship.

(Illustration of preacher, Francois Fenelon & King Louis XIV of France)

Francois Fenelon was the court preacher for King Louis XIV of France in the 17th century. One Sunday when the king and his attendants arrived at the chapel for the regular service, no one was present except the preacher. King Louis demanded, "What does this mean?" Fenelon replied, "I had published that you would not come to church today, in order that Your Majesty might see who serves God in truth and who flatters the king."

Our primary reason for worship should not be determined where the worship is held; nor should it be because of who is there; and it shouldn't be under compulsion. We should always worship because that is the desire of our hearts. And we should want to worship whether the church is empty or full. "How Close?" Only as close as we permit ourselves to draw near to God. How we worship determines how we serve. Worship is no substitute for service, nor is service a substitute for worship. But true worship is always expressed in loving service.









Ralph C. Link
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Born: April 9, 1929, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Married: December 15, 1951
Wife: Shirley Margaret Neill
Born: December 8, 1930, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Children: Ralph Dale Link, born May 11, 1955, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Lloyd Alan Link, born May 28, 1958, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Nancy Lynn Link, born March 15, 1961, Butler, Pa.

SCHOOLING:

Graduated from Perry High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 1947

Lay Ministry School, Penn West Conference of United
Church of Christ, September 1965 to May 1969

Commissioned Lay Minister June 1969

Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa.,
September 1970

Graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary May 1974

Ordained to Christian Ministry March 10, 1974

PASTORATES:

As Lay Minister: short term, 1 month or less in
various churches 1965 to 1967

Emlenton Lamartine Charge of United Church of Christ
1967 to 1969

Short term in various churches 1970 until Seminary
entrance July 1970

July 1970 to December 1973 Student Pastor at Trinity
Charge, New Bloomfield, Duncannon, Pa., Penn Central
Conference, United Church of Christ

December 1973 to present, St. Paul's United Church of
Christ, Butler, Pa., Penn West Conference, United
Church of Christ

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

OF

Ralph C. Link

I am the youngest of five children. I was born just prior to the onset of the Depression. Our family was very poor. My father was an alcoholic and my mother was a very religious person who was searching for the Lord. During my childhood she did her best to teach me the things of the Lord. Later in life she came to a personal relationship with Him.

I grew up in the Evangelical and Reformed Church where salvation by grace alone was not preached nor taught. I knew all about Jesus, what He did, how He lived, His miracles, His death and resurrection, but I didn't know Him personally.

My life had many ups and downs and all the while I was attending church and striving with my good works to please God. At a very low point in my life when we were deeply in debt and my wife and three children were all ill, I came to the crossroads. I watched a Billy Graham Crusade on television from some distant city and the message he preached seemed to be directed right at me. I wrestled with making that commitment to Christ, but didn't. The next afternoon and evening at work on the 4 to 12 shift I came to the conclusion that I needed to make that commitment to Christ. It seemed like there was no other choice if life was to have any meaning. That night when I came home from work at 1:00 A.M., I laid face down on the living room floor and told God that I couldn't live my life in my own strength and I accepted the gift of salvation from my Savior Jesus Christ. My life has never been the same.

Through several meaningful circumstances I was called by God to serve Him in the Christian Ministry and to help spread that wonderful message of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful and rewarding time it has been and I give Him all the praise for my salvation and the opportunity to serve Him.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

OF

Ralph C. Link

I believe the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired inerrant Word of God. I believe the Bible is the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and it is the final authority for the Christian faith and life.

I believe in one God, who is eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I believe in the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ that He is true God and true man. I believe that He was born of the Virgin Mary, that He lived in sinless life, that He performed the miracles recorded in Scripture, that He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins, that He bodily arose from the dead, that He ascended on high where He is at the right hand of Almighty God as our intercessor.

I believe in the Holy Spirit and that He comes and indwells each believer at the time of conversion. I believe that He lives in each believer to lead, to instruct, and to convict so that a believer may live a more godly life.

I believe that through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and through His resurrection, this is the only ground for justification and salvation for all who receive Him. A Lord and Savior and to such as receive Him, they are born of the Holy Spirit and become children of God.

I believe water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church but are not means of salvation.

I believe in the personal and premillennial and imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe in the resurrection of the dead, for the believer to resurrection of life and joy with the Lord, for the unbeliever to resurrection of judgement and everlasting punishment.